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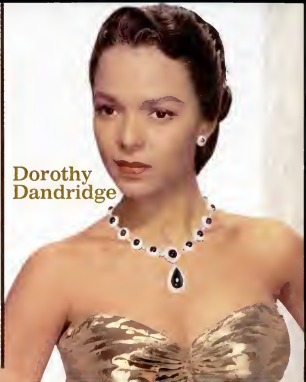
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Dorothy
Dandridge



Halle Berry

On How
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Spirit—And
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Plus

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ON THE COVER



After much speculation about who would play the coveted role of the legendary entertainer Dorothy Dandridge, Halle Berry is featured in the movie *Introducing Dorothy Dandridge*. In the story that begins on Page 90, the actress talks about how the role affected her and reveals some of the "erie" things that happened during production. Cover photograph: Harry Langdon. Hair: Linda De Andrea. Makeup: Laura Mohberg for Cloutier. Gown and jewelry: Shelley Komarov. Cover design: Lewis E. Lee.



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A young girl and boy are playing in a sprinkler. The girl, in the background, wears an orange tank top and has her arms outstretched. The boy, in the foreground, wears a yellow tank top and blue shorts, also with his arms outstretched. They are both smiling and splashing in the water. The background is a grassy area with trees.

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Reginald L. Brown Jr. is vice president of U.S. solutions sales for Oracle Service Industries, an \$8 billion California-based supplier of software for information management. Brown, a native of Richmond, Va., holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from North Carolina A&T University and studied toward an MBA at Virginia Commonwealth University. He and his wife, Doris, currently reside in Vienna, Va. They have two daughters, Shani and Regina.

PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

Ruth W. Mayden is president of the National Association of Social Workers, a 155,000-member organization that's dedicated to developing and protecting the practice of social work and social workers. Mayden, dean of the graduate school of social work and social research at Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pa., is a graduate of Morgan State University and holds a master's degree in social work from Bryn Mawr College. The Baltimore native currently resides in Philadelphia.



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John W. Thompson is president, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Symantec Corporation, a world leader in utility software for business and personal computing. The company is headquartered in Cupertino, Calif. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Florida A&M University and a master's degree in management science from MIT's Sloan School of Management. Previously, he spent 25 years employed with the IBM Corporation.

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LAURYN HILL

I would like to commend you on the article, "Lauryn Hill: Hip Hop's Hottest Star Balances Love, Motherhood And Fame" (May 1999). I really like the way EBONY promotes African-Americans. Lauryn Hill is a young Black woman, and she is very talented and skilled at what she does. I thought that the article was superb. There are few women in the music industry who have gotten five Grammy Awards.

The article enlightened me, because it lets me know that you can face adversity and still be a successful person. I am a young African-American female making my way through college, and I hope to be very successful one day. I feel that if I follow my dreams and keep the faith, one day I will be able to do so. Again, I thank you for placing such a great article in your magazine.

KAWASKA HINES

Birmingham, Ala.

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

I am writing in regard to your "1999 Baseball Roundup" (June 1999). I noticed that one of the player's names is misspelled. The Houston Astros player is Glen Barker, not Glen Baker.

GLEN BARKER SR.

Albany, N.Y.

SURGEON TO THE STARS

I want to applaud you for writing about another person who is making a difference in people's lives ("Mathias Fobi, M.D.: Surgeon To The Stars," June 1999). I am having the surgery in July, and at first, I was really scared to go through with it, but in light of what I have been reading, I feel comfortable about going through it. I know a person firsthand who had great success with the surgery and I

can't wait for it to be me. The only thing I wish to make understood is that this is a permanent change and one that will change your life, so don't do it because of peer pressure or because you are trying to please someone else; do it for you. Society has been dictating to us how we should look and feel, but it's not easy to diet in a country that offers every type of food imaginable. I know because I have tried every pill, shake, bar and machine to control my weight. To have this surgery available, with such a high success rate, is truly a blessing from God. EBONY, keep up the good work.

SHARON ISAACS

Washington, D.C.

MISTAKES DATING SINGLE DADS

Thank you for the terrific article, "Mistakes Women Make In Dating Single Dads" (June 1999). I felt that the article was very informative and it opened my eyes to the many mistakes that I have made and am making while dating a single father. At the moment, I am proudly dating the father of a beautiful 3-year-old girl. I love them both and pray that I am in their lives for a long time. Thanks to this article, I now know how to better my chances of that happening. I know that I could never take the place of the child's mother and would never want to try. I hope that all my Sisters will read this article and remember the steps on how to become part of such a wonderful experience the next time they meet Mr. Right/Mr. Dad. And Sisters, please remember there is nothing like the love a man has for his child; we must never compete for it because in the end we will always lose.

SHEQUIRA R. CALLAHAN

Fort Stewart, Ga.

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Incorporating Black World Magazine

VOLUME LIV, No. 10

August 1999

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LETTERS

Continued

I just received my copy of the June 1999 issue and read Lynn Norment's article, "Mistakes Women Make In Dating Single Dads." It was a timely and informative article. We hear a lot about single mothers and the problems they face, but we forget that there are many men out here raising their children alone. As a divorced mother, I commend you for doing this article! Although my ex-husband and I shared custody of our daughter, he was committed to spending "his time" with her. In this age when men walk away from their children when they are no longer with the wife/girlfriend, I was proud to say that my ex was dedicated to being a father. However, I was amazed at how the women he dated (not that he dated many) would treat him in regard to the time he wanted to spend with our daughter. Although she was his "little princess," it never occurred to any of them that he really enjoyed spending quality time with her. Unfortunately, a few of them tried to make him choose; needless to say, they lost. Others tried to become my daughter's best friend and, trust me, children know when you are not being true. Ultimately, I began to hear that no one would date him because his daughter "ruled" him or that he was still interested in her. Neither was true, but it showed me how insecure and immature some women can be. Our daughter is now in college and she remembers some of those "silly" women, as she describes them. It just goes to show you that (a) never make a man choose between you and his child; you will lose. And (b) if he chooses you, the child never forgets and he will soon regret the choice. Trust me on this.

MADLINE L. CHINN

Rochester, N.Y.

AT HOME WITH LYNN WHITFIELD

I was very happy to see and read "At Home With Lynn Whitfield" (May 1999). Being a fan of Lynn's, it was nice to see that a Black actress as wonderful, talented and down-to-earth as Lynn is being spotlighted in EBONY. While other actresses are great, too, Lynn is in a class by herself.

JERRY ANDERSON

Cleveland, Ohio



LATEST TREND IN WEDDING GOWNS

Editor's Note: The article, "Latest Trend In Wedding Gowns" (June 1999), did not identify Iyabo Oredin of African Trends International in Chesapeake, Va., as the designer of the wedding attire worn by Quenton Linyear, who is pictured with his bride, the former Susan Willis.

DEATH PENALTY DEBATE

I have just finished your article, "The Death Penalty Debate: Are We Killing Innocent Black Men?" (May 1999). I am outraged, ashamed and at these statistics and the fact that these judgments were ever handed down. Black Americans are seen as a threat to many in White society, but in this day and age, there should be a zero amount of innocent individuals who are incarcerated and executed because of the scientific advances. In the case of Mr. Anthony Porter, 16 years elapsed before he was finally released. These years can never be returned.

Thanks to EBONY for doing this informative article, not only for standing up for justice—real, color-blind justice—but for bringing this outrageous injustice to the forefront for everybody to see.

GREGORY THOMAS ELLIS

Fort Washington, Md.

Recently I read the important article, "The Death Penalty Debate: Are We Killing Innocent Black Men?" This is a controversy over capital punishment most people don't hear about every day. I really was informed about how Black men were put in jail for crimes they didn't commit.

Knowing that some Blacks have fought for their innocence makes me feel good inside. Even so, I think that the state should give them something to make up for the lost time in which they could have been doing something positive for themselves and for their communities. In your future magazines, I would like to read more about innocent Black men and also about other Black people who aren't well-recognized.

MARLON
CHEATHAM
Mobile, Ala.

Are we killing innocent Black men? We need to address not only the killing of innocent Black men, but also the issue of innocent Black men who are serving time for crimes which they did not commit. There are many young Black men doing as many as eight years to life for crimes they did not commit. It's sad to say, but it's true;

our Black men, especially young Black men, are being stripped of their rights.

DENISE BANKS

Chicago, Ill.

I really found the article, "The Death Penalty Debate: Are We Killing

this major issue that we are facing.

GEORGE E. MORRIS

Mobile, Ala.

I read your article, "Are We Killing Innocent Black Men?" It really disturbs my soul when I hear about

African-American men and women who have had years of their lives taken away while they spend time on death row, awaiting execution for murders they did not commit. It has been said that poor, young Black men and women are convenient targets. Society places a high amount of pressure on African-Americans and other minorities. Why should it be "sheer luck" and by the hard work of a Northwestern University journalism professor, along with several journalism students, to provide evidence in the effort to release an innocent

man? I think that lies and alleged police misconduct is why the police force has such a bad reputation. I also agree that race has always been the key element within the application of the death penalty. If the death penalty is going to



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Innocent Black Men?" very interesting and informative reading. I think it's time we took a hard look at the death penalty. Too many of our Brothers have died for a crime they did not commit. Hopefully, others have read the article and have become as aware as I have on

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LETTERS

Continued

be considered for anyone, it should reflect on the type of crime committed, not by one's race. I hope this article will make people understand and realize that, not only is the African-American community affected by this issue, but it is a universal problem that all people should have knowledge about.

NATASHA CRANE

Las Vegas, Nev.

NEW WAVE OF WIDOWS

I was both pleased and surprised to see the article, "The New Wave Of Widows" (May 1999). I became a widow on December 26, 1995. I was 34 years old and had been married for 15 years. The unexpected news of my husband's death from a heart attack came just three days after his 35th birthday. Here I was with three children—ages 9, 13 and 14—and my world was falling apart. I wondered, "How can life go on after the loss of someone so great?" But life goes on. Through the grace of God and the

support of my best friend, Sandra, I survived. Now 3½ years later, I find myself managing well and in a wonderful relationship (I've been blessed). Yes, I still love my husband and I miss him dearly. I miss all the things one misses after the death of a loved one, but I know through the love of God, the support of family and friends and the power of prayer, life does go on.

VERONICA GARY

Pikesville, Md.

I have truly enjoyed my EBONY magazines over the years, but I have never written to you about any of your articles. Your article, "The New Wave Of Widows," hit home. I have been a widow for one year. My husband, who was my best friend, died of a heart attack on April 11, 1998. He was 66. We had been friends since the sixth grade. I felt my life had ended. To my amazement, I have found a "new" inner strength and a "new" life. My faith has been strengthened. I have also found a special closeness with my children, grandchildren and other relatives. I also have been embraced my "special" extended family—my church

family (Antioch Baptist Church), the Canton Negro Oldtimers club members and my North Carolina A&T family. Because of my husband's wonderful memories, his humor and his caring and sharing, I know he will continue to live through us. Leroy was an ordinary man who did extraordinary deeds. Thank you, EBONY, and thank you, ladies, for your encouraging thoughts and words.

GWENDOLYN SINGLETERY

Canton, Ohio

FAITH EVANS

I would like to thank you for the article, "After Biggie: Faith Evans Has A New Love, A New Baby, A New Career" (April 1999). Faith has really influenced me, and I hope that one day I can become a strong and successful person just like her. Faith Evans is my mentor. I love and enjoy listening to her music. Her life and attitude has really changed after the death of her husband, Christopher Wallace (The Notorious B.I.G.). Faith is a beautiful, smart and talented person. After what she has been through, she deserves all the happiness in the world. Her chil-

Vinederful

Bambootiful

Expressly Yours.

Kleenex Expressions

dren—Chyna, Christopher and Joshua—are beautiful. I do hope that her new man showers her with all the love, happiness and help that she needs. Please write another article on Faith Evans very soon.

NYEMA WHITE

Brooklyn, N.Y.

IMPORTANT! IF YOU ARE MOVING SOON,

please advise EBONY at least five weeks before you move. Send old and new addresses to expedite the change. You may remove the address label from your magazine and enclose it with your new address.

Change of address should be sent to EBONY, P.O. Box 690, Chicago, IL 60690-9966.

FOR BROTHERS ONLY

Congratulations on your column, "Why Do Sisters Always Make Mama Mad?" (May 1999). I was very delighted, sitting on the sofa, and I couldn't stop reading it until my eyes had run through the last word of that column.

I hope all the fine Sisters out there paid attention and took good notes. It sounds so simple, but those rules are definitely an undeniable path to winning a man's heart. Ignoring them could lead any lady to lose her sweetheart. Unlike men and their father-in-law, women are more prone to easily hurt mama's ego.

DINAM T. POIGNY

Woodbridge, Va.

HOW TO LOVE A BLACK WOMAN

After reading your article, "How To Love A Black Woman" (May 1999), I was filled with so much hope. My husband and I have been married for 13 years and have struggled through just about every issue mentioned. We are currently separated. We have set a date to come together and read this article together. I am hoping this will bring awareness and open a positive and lov-

ing dialogue between us. Thank you for an article that is filled with so much positivity, truth and love. I hope my husband and I find our way back to each other some day. Perhaps your wonderful article will help us to do just that.

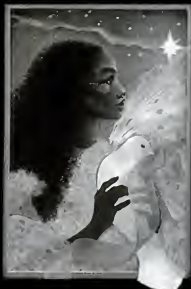
JULIE JOHNSON

Bronx, N.Y.

Letters intended for this column should be addressed to:

Letters To The Editor,
EBONY Magazine, 820 S.
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EBONY

BOOKSHELF

UNFINISHED at the time of Ralph Ellison's death in 1994, *Juneteenth* (Random House, \$25) is the long-anticipated follow-up novel to the classic *Invisible Man*.

Ellison's executor John F. Callahan turned the 2000-page manuscript into a readable story of an unlikely relationship between a race-baiting White senator and his Black religious mentor. After he's wounded by an assassin's bullets, the senator calls to his hospital bedside the Black preacher who raised him. The story unfolds as the two recall their past. The result, though disjointed and sketchy at times, contains brilliant snatches of the prose for which Ellison is known.

Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation (Oxford University Press, \$35) is a ground-breaking study of fugitive slaves that puts a new face on that "peculiar institution," by major American historian John Hope Franklin and his co-author Loren Schweninger. Putting to death the image of the happy slave, the authors paint a different picture of slavery—one that shows enslaved Africans in a perpetual state of resistance to their bondage. The authors share information from their detailed research, including wanted posters, newspapers, letters and other sources that back up their assertion that many slaves did whatever they could to free themselves from slavery—destroying property, stopping work, escape and even murder. It's a searing reply to the myth of the contented slaves and

a fitting companion to Franklin's other works on American history.

Women's Liberation: Jesus Style: Messages of Spirituality & Wisdom for Today's Woman (Ruach Communications, Inc., \$19.95), a collection of spiritual essays and sermons from our nation's preachers that teach lessons of empowerment for women, edited by Stephanie F. Bibb. Touching on issues ranging from self-esteem and motherhood to relationships and faith, the book challenges and comforts readers seeking fulfillment and insight.

Mighty Like a River: The Black Church and Social Reform (Oxford University Press, \$25), a comprehensive study of how the African-American church helped shape American society, by Andrew Billingsley.

From Coal to Cream: A Black Man's Journey Beyond Color to an Affirmation of Race (The Free Press, \$24), a penetrating memoir of one man's journey to understand the dynamics of race and color, by Eugene Robinson. The author, a foreign correspondent, moves his family to Brazil and finds a strange paradise where a dark-skinned woman can consider herself White, where people debate whether an African-American man like himself is Black since his coloring makes him *pardo* (light-brown-skinned), where instead of one drop of Black blood darkening your roots, one drop of White blood seems to make you Whiter. At first liberated by this new system, Robinson soon learns the Brazilian way erases an integral part of the Black experience as he explores the mean-



Donna Richardson

Fitness expert and author of *Let's Get Real: Exercise Your Right to a Healthy Body*

Last book I read:

With Ossie and Ruby: In This Life Together by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee

What I thought:

"The book is filled with wisdom, compassion and hope. I hope that the partnership that I have with the love of my life, Tom Joyner, will be just as fulfilling and everlasting."

ing of color and race in Brazil, America and worldwide. It's a standout book full of lush imagery and insightful reflections on race and life.

Bootleg (HarperCollins, \$22), a collection of irreverent reflections on life and love, by comedian Damon Wayans. Commenting on topics spanning from relationships to racism, from Hollywood stars to sex, the author uses comedy to amuse and to provoke readers with his in-your-face style of humor.

Cheaters (Dutton, \$24.95) is a deftly crafted tale about the games people play and the lies they tell on their search for love, by Eric Jerome Dickey. The author introduces us to a circle of young, Black professionals living in Los Angeles who have a lot going on careerwise but have some trouble when it comes to sustaining healthy relationships and making commitments. Through the stories of the book's characters, readers get an honest glimpse at the many struggles—both internal and external—people face on their search to meet the right person.

On the Real Side: A History of African American Comedy from Slavery to Chris Rock (Lawrence Hill Books, \$16.95), a comprehensive history of Black humor from its African roots to the present, by Mel Watkins. The author takes readers through the essential elements of African-American comedy and then shows us its development and influence on American culture. This exhaustive book has the breadth of a *Who's Who* in Black comedy as it discusses important comedians, including Richard Pryor and Whoopi Goldberg, Redd Foxx and Moms Mabley while commenting on the social and political impact of their craft.

I Call Myself an Artist Boundaries: Writings By and About Charles Johnson (Indiana University Press, \$35), a treasury of Johnson's writings, including essays, an autobiography, cartoons, speeches, interviews and outtakes from his novels, including *Oxherding Tale*, edited by Rudolph P. Byrd. The book ends with critical essays from scholars about the man and his craft.

Song for Anninho (Beacon Press, \$22), a book-length poem, by Gayl Jones. The author writes a haunting

love story of a Black man and woman in 17th century Brazil that addresses timeless issues such as hope, passion, evil, corruption and resilience.

Barrier-Breaking Résumés and Interviews: Jumping the Hurdle of Unemployment and Getting a Job (Random House, \$12), a revolutionary guide for the job-seekers most career guides forget to remember—the never-employed, formerly incarcerated and welfare recipients hoping to do better, by Anita Doreen Diggs. The author goes over the basics of finding and securing a job in simple language with plenty of examples of effective résumés, cover letters and interview questions.

Mother Love: Reinventing a Good and Blessed Future for Our Children (Innisfree Press, \$12), an empowering collection of reflections, quotations and affirmations, by Esther Davis-Thompson.

The Children Coming On . . . : A Retrospective of the Montgomery Bus Boycott (Black Belt Press, \$21.95), a look back at a pivotal event of the Civil Rights Movement through oral histories of participants, newspaper clippings and historical documents, by Fred D. Gray, Willy S. Leventhal, Frank Sikora and J. Mills Thornton III. The book helps readers understand the sacrifice and strength it took people of that time to make history through their incredible and determined stand.

Debating The Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1968 (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., \$19.95), a study of the events and people who shaped the Civil Rights Movement, by Steven F. Lawson and Charles Payne. The authors give us their takes on this period of social reform and its impact on American race relations, complete with a select collection of historical documents that influenced their thinking.

Seven Dreams of Elmira: A Tale of Martinique (Zoland Books, \$20), a magical fable about the lives of workers in a West Indian town, by Patrick Chamoiseau.

Building a House for Diversity: How a fable about a Giraffe & an Elephant offers new strategies for today's workforce (AMACOM, \$27.95), a book on managing diversity, by R. Roosevelt Thomas Jr. with Marjorie I. Woodruff.

Thick wipes, small swipes.



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SOUNDING **ff** The Best In Recorded Music

BLUES fans will love Buddy Guy's compilation, **Buddy's Baddest: The Best Of Buddy Guy** (Silvertone). The recording features some of the veteran bluesman's best music, culled from five albums (1991 to 1998). The collection includes the mournful "Feels Like Rain," which features Bonnie Raitt on guitar and vocals; the energetic "Mustang Sally," a duet with Jeff Beck; and "Midnight Train" with Jonny Lang. Known as one of music's finest guitarists, Guy demonstrates his handiwork throughout the recording, but especially on "She's 19 Years Old," "Slippin' Out, Slippin' In," the new track "Miss Ida B," and a live rendition of "My Time After Awhile."

Destiny's Child races up the charts with a slamming second record, **Writing's On The Wall** (Columbia), which is destined to heat up the music scene. Many of the 15 songs are up-tempo dance tunes, such as "Jumpin, Jumpin," as well as sassy diatribes like "Bills, Bills, Bills," "Hey Ladies," "Bugaboo" and "Say My Name." Sure to be a hit is the sexy, rhythmic "Temptation," but the talented ladies also offer the slow jams "Now That She's Gone," "Stay" and "She Can't Love You." They close the set with a soulful take on "Amazing Grace."

Maxi Priest is back in stride with **CombiNation** (Virgin), on which he delivers laid-back, uptown reggae, which has come to symbolize the artist. With silky smooth vocals, Priest leads off with the easy-flowing "Tomorrow's People," which has a pan-cultural theme, followed by the hit single, "Mary Has A Baby," which is laced with reggae rap from Beenie Man. His thumping, pumping "She Wants To Dance" is infectious, while

the urgent, poignant "Try" may be the best of the set. The soulful side of Maxi shines on "What A Woman Needs" and "Here We Go," as it does on Stevie Wonder's "Golden Lady."



With great music that blends reggae, pop and R&B, Maxi Priest delivers grooves for the beach, party time, a scenic drive, or just cooling out.

ALSO NOTED: Peabo Bryson, **Unconditional Love** (Private Music); Dianne Reeves, **Bridges** (Blue Note); Vanessa Rubin, **Language of Love** (Telarc); Dunn Pearson, **Undercover Lover** (Bounce); Kenny Garrett, **Simply Said** (WB); Natalie Cole, **Snow Fall On The Sahara** (Elektra); Regina Carter, **Rhythms Of The Heart** (Verve); Joe Chambers, **Mirrors** (Blue Note); Smokey Robinson, **Intimate** (Motown); Wild, Wild West (Capitol); Ziggy Marley, **Spirit of Music** (Elektra); Beverly Ellis, **A Diamond Won't Cut It** (DeltaDisc); K-Ci & JoJo, **It's Real** (MCA);



Missy Elliott, **Da Real World** (East-West); Song, **In The Fireplace** (Bayswater/AMP); Melky Sedek, **Sister & Brother** (MCA); Public Enemy, **There's A Poison Goin On** (Atomic Pop); Mase, **Double Up** (Bad Boy); Inoj, **Ready For The World** (SoSoDef); Olu, **Soul Catcher** (Gee Street/V2); Dave Hollister, **Ghetto Hymns** (Interscope); Ant Banks, **Derty Werk** (Thump Street); Janet Hubert, **Rock N Roar Dinosaurs** (Rounder Kids); New Direction (Epic); Raymond



Myles & Rams, **Heaven Is The Place** (NYNO); Virtue, **Get Ready!** (Verity); Lamar Campbell & Spirit of Praise, **I Need Your Spirit** (EMI Gospel); and Troy Sneed, **Call Jesus** (Savoy).

—Lynn Norment

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By Laura B. Randolph

The Financial Facts Of Life

HELLO, Sisters. Sit down. Get comfortable. Kick your shoes off. There's something we need to talk about. Something important. Something that could very well affect the way we live for the rest of our lives. What we need to talk about is money; specifically, how we see it, spend it, save it.

You know that slogan the hip-hop generation is always spouting, the one the twentysomethings have turned into the catchphrase of the '90s—"It's all about the Benjamins?" Well, it turns out they're on to something.

Now, don't get all indignant. I'm not saying they're right; I'm just saying they're not totally wrong, either. While happiness will never be all about money—all the Benjamins in the world can't buy you health or emotional well-being or peace of mind—we need to accept the fact that, in *The Real World*, it's a crucial part of the mix.

As author/entrepreneur Georgette Moshbacher so rightly points out in her book, *It Takes Money, Honey*: "Unless you have money, you cannot put a roof over your head, feed and clothe yourself, get medical care when you're sick, or provide any of those basics for your children or any other loved one who depends on you. Just try being happy under those circumstances."

You can't, of course. Those are just the financial facts of life. Which is why when, in an effort to attract African-American investors, two of the hottest financial firms in the country—Ariel Capital Management, Inc. and Charles Schwab & Co.—teamed up to survey middle-class Black folks about their attitudes toward investing, I was delighted. Then the results came out.

Before we get to the bad stuff, let me tell you the good news: The poll showed that, not only were Black folks more likely than Whites to have read books about investing, we chose it as our top goal for 1999. Unfortunately, that's all we did. When it comes to putting our money where our mouth is, it seems, we talk the talk, but we don't walk the walk. (Only about half—57 percent—of middle-class Blacks own any stocks at all, compared with 81 percent of Whites, the poll showed.)

What that means, says Ariel Mutual Funds President John Rogers of Chicago, is that Black folks "are still missing out on the greatest wealth-building opportunity in American history."

And no one is missing out more than Black women. We are the least likely to own IRAs, mutual funds, brokerage accounts, money markets, or any other investment you can think of. Of course, you know we Sisters gave a whole bunch of reasonable sounding explanations for our failure to sock away money for our future. Heading the

list was lack of knowledge (66 percent of Black women invoked this defense) and lack of money (almost half of us said that after we pay the rent, buy the groceries and take care of the kids and the car note, there is simply nothing left).

While both explanations sound good, more often than not, they're bogus. What we don't know, we can find out. There is a wealth of information out there—books, free seminars, adult education classes—that not only spell out the basics of investing clearly and simply, many even lay out how we can start with as little as \$50 a month. (Throughout the year, for example, Charles Schwab & Co. is hosting a series of free educational workshops specifically for the African-American community. For dates and times in your city, call 800-997-4151).

As for the "can't afford it" defense, experts say you don't need a lot of money to accumulate real wealth through investments. If you're serious about securing your future, all it really takes is a few dollars a week. "Think about how much money you could save every month just by cutting back on small things—a hair appointment here and there, a manicure, that latté and muffin you buy every morning," says Ariel Mutual Funds VP Melody Hobson. "Cut out just one of them and I bet you'll have \$20 this very week that you can save."

It's simple in concept and, believe it or not, not that hard to do. To make it work, you just need to start somewhere. Start by saving something—anything—every week. Five bucks is good. Ten is better. And \$20 will really work. A 30-year-old woman who puts just \$50 a month in stocks in a tax-free retirement plan that returns just 11 percent a year (the average growth rate for stocks over the last 50 years) will have more than \$200,000 by the time she retires at age 65. And if she ups the investment to \$221 a month, she'll retire a millionaire.

I don't know about you, but I'm thinking a \$200,000 nest egg is well worth giving up a few lattés. It's a pay-now or pay-later thing. A latté in my stomach now or a roof over my head later.

Whether you decide to fund your nest egg with latté or manicure or hairdresser money, the point is really this: Financial security is within our power. All we have to do to attain it is commit ourselves to a savings and investment plan that makes our money work as hard for us as we do for it. We can't afford to leave it up to luck or fate. It's like my mother always says: "If you want your money to take care of you, you have to take care of it."

If we want our ship to come in, Sisters, we have to build a dock.

If we want our ship to come in, Sisters, we have to build a dock.

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AUGUST ABLAZE

ALIVE with light, heat and activities, August is truly summer's last gasp. Before school starts and summer vacations end, now is the time for summer fun. In Europe, the last few weeks of August find whole countries on vacation. Black travelers continue their convention activities in August as major civil rights organizations, sororities and fraternities, police and fire professionals, and Black church denominations hold conventions.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE

ATLANTA

- National Black Nurses Association Convention. Hyatt-Regency Hotel. Aug. 11-15.
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Annual Convention. Atlanta Marriott-Marquis Hotel. Aug. 17-22.
- National Dental Association Convention. Hyatt Regency Hotel. July 30-Aug. 4.
- B.B. King Blues Music Festival. Chastain Park Amphitheatre. 6 p.m. Aug. 27-28.

BALTIMORE

- AFRAM. Baltimore's three-day celebration of African-American culture. Pimlico Race Track. Aug. 6-8.

- *Chokwe! Art and Initiation Among Chokwe and Related Peoples.* Baltimore Museum of Art. Through Sept. 5.

CHARLESTON, S.C.

- The Association of Black Psychologists Convention. Sheraton-Charleston. Aug. 4-8.

CHICAGO

- Rainbow/PUSH Coalition Annual Convention. Hyatt

Regency McCormick Place. Aug. 4-7.

- Association of Black Sociologists Convention. Allerton Crowne Plaza Hotel. Aug. 4-6.
- Black Expo Chicago. McCormick Place North. July 30-Aug. 1.
- *State of the Blues: The Living Legacy of the Delta* exhibit. The DuSable Museum. Through Sept. 12.

CLEVELAND

- Urban League African American Family Picnic. Luke Easter Park. Noon. Aug. 7.
- National Rib Fest Classic. East Lake. Premier barbecue festival. Aug. 19-22.
- 5th Anniversary Black Family Expo. Includes more than 250 exhibits and entertainment. Cleveland Convention Center. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Aug. 21.

DALLAS

- National Primitive Baptist Convention. Hyatt Regency Airport. Aug. 14-20.
- African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church National Conference. Adam's Mark Hotel. July 31-Aug. 6.
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Convention. Wyndham Anatole Hotel. July 29-Aug. 3.

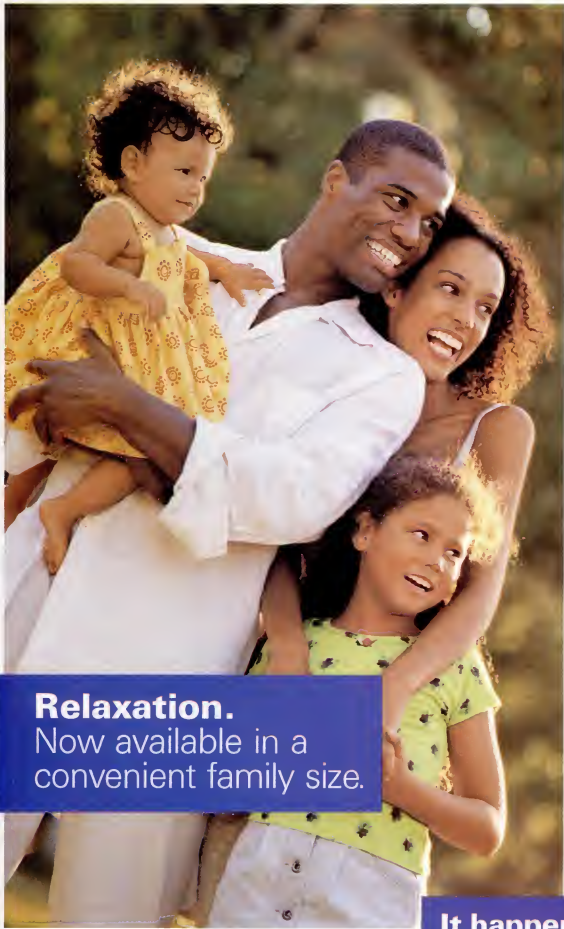
DEARBORN, Mich.

- National Association of Real Estate Brokers Convention. Hyatt-Regency-DeARBORN. Aug. 6-13.

DETROIT

- African World Festival. Hart Plaza, downtown Detroit. Features free concerts performed by





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EBONY TRAVEL GUIDE *Continued*

Caribbean, African, and African-American entertainers. Aug. 20-22.

- *For Honor and Valor: African Americans in the U.S. Military, 1776-1954.* New exhibit at the Museum of African-American History.

HOUSTON

- National Urban League Convention. Houston Convention Center. Aug. 8-11.
- Houston International Jazz Festival. Reflection Pool, Herman Square in front of City Hall. Aug. 6-8.

INDIANAPOLIS

- Africafest. A celebration of African-American art and culture. Indianapolis Museum of Art. Indiana Convention Center. Aug. 21.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.

- Hot Summer Blues Festival. Jacksonville Beach. Aug. 22.

LAS VEGAS

- National Medical Association Convention. Las Vegas Hilton. Aug. 8-13.
- The Organization of Black Airline Pilots Convention. Riviera Hotel. Aug. 22-26.
- Tuskegee Airmen Annual Convention. Riviera Hotel. Aug. 22-26.

LOS ANGELES

- Midsummer Night's Magic. All-Star Celebrity Basketball Game and Concert. Benefiting UNCF & the Tom Joyner Foundation and the Scholarship Fund of the Magic Johnson

Foundation. July 30-Aug. 2.

MIAMI

- 15th Annual Miami Reggae Festival. One of the largest reggae events in the United States. Bayfront Park. Aug. 1.

MILWAUKEE

- African World Festival. Henry Maier Festival Park. July 30-Aug. 1.
- The National Black Police Association Convention. Milwaukee Hilton Hotel. Aug. 15-22.

NEW ORLEANS

- The Knights of Peter Clover National Convention. Hyatt Regency Hotel. July 30-Aug. 5.
- Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World Annual Convention. Hyatt Regency Hotel. Aug. 6-13.
- The Gospel Music Workshop of America Convention. Ernest Morial Convention Center. Aug. 7-13.
- Blacks in Government (BIG) Annual Convention. Hilton-Riverside Hotel. Aug. 16-20.

NEW YORK CITY

- Kennedy Center Africa Fete '99. Central Park, Summer Stage. This 18-city tour presenting the best of African music runs through Labor Day weekend. Aug. 14.
- Harlem Day Jazz & Music Festival. West 135th Street. Aug. 22.
- Paul Robeson: Artist and Citizen. A multidisciplinary exhibition celebrating the life of the multitalented actor, singer

and activist. The Museum of the City of New York. Through Sept. 5.

OAKLAND, Calif.

- Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Conclave. Marriott-Downtown. Aug. 4-8.

PHILADELPHIA

- African-American Cultural Extravaganza. Festival highlighting Black history and culture with live performances and a marketplace. Great Plaza, Penn's Landing. Aug. 28-29.
- Caribbean Festival. Traditional foods and crafts along with live stage performances celebrate Caribbean culture. Aug. 22.
- Unity Day. A celebration of African-American unity. Ben Franklin Parkway. Aug. 15.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas

- Hornsby Jazz, Blues and Poetry Festival. Carver Community Cultural Center. July 31-Aug. 1.

ST. LOUIS

- The 8th Annual St. Louis Tap Festival. Includes master classes and Fox Theater concert. July 28-Aug. 1.
- 8th Annual Missouri Black Expo. America's Center. Aug. 14-15.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

- National Association of Black Customs Enforcement Officers 13th Annual Conference. Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel. Aug. 4-7.
- Unity in Diversity Day. National Mall at 3rd St. & Constitution Ave., NW. Aug. 7.

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

- 10th Annual National Black Theatre Festival. Adam's Mark Hotel and various city sites. Aug. 2-7.

ISLAND DESTINATIONS:

BAHAMAS

- Emancipation Day. Public holiday commemorates the emancipation of slavery in 1834. Aug. 2.
- Goomboy Festival. Andros. Highlights include the Goomboy Dancers. Through Aug. 28.

CURACAO

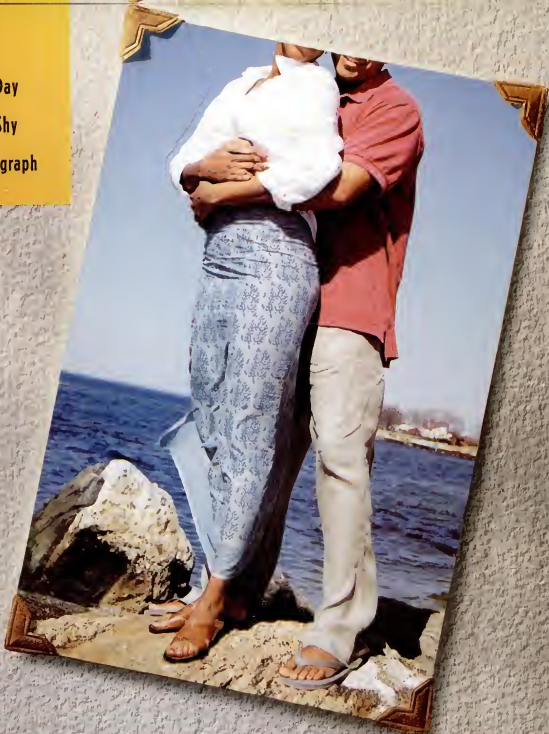
- Afro-Caribbean Heritage Month. Month-long activities to spotlight the achievements and contributions of its people of African descent.

JAMAICA

- Negril Carnival. Float parade, costumes, band competition and dancing. July 30-Aug. 1.
- Emancipation Wake. A tribute to Jamaica's African ancestors. Seville, St. Ann.
- 5th Annual Reggae Sunfest. Annual five-day music festival features local and international reggae artists. Catherine Hall, Montego Bay. Aug. 2-8.
- Jamaica Independence Day Parade. Gala parade of costumed and uniformed groups. Traditional Jonkanoo and gerrah dancing. Kings House, Kingston. Aug. 6.

AUGUST ABLAZE

- A. Bad Hair Day
- B. Painfully Shy
- C. Bad Photograph**



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10 EASY WAYS TO GET OUT OF DEBT

YOU may have made your bed of debt, but you don't have to lie in it for the rest of your life. The following 10 easy tips will get you out of your financial sick bed and on foot to fiscal health and wealth.

1. CREATE A CASH CUSHION

An emergency cash fund is insurance against future debt. If the water heater pops, the roof leaks or the tires blow, a cash reserve protects you from going into further credit-card debt or taking out more loans to cover unexpected costs. Financial experts say you should store enough money in your emergency fund to cover at least three months' expenses should you face unemployment or illness. Experts also advise you put this reserve in an easily accessible account, such as a money-market fund or a bank money-market or savings account, so you can tap it easily when you need it.

2. PRIORITIZE DEBTS

Since interest payments on debts siphon money you could be using for something else, the financial rule is pay off debts with the highest interest rates first as quickly as possible, then work down. Money experts say it's best to tackle debts one at a time and pay off the ones with the smallest balances first to give yourself a sense of accomplishment and encouragement to keep up the good work.

3. REALIZE ALL DEBT ISN'T BAD

Mortgages, home-equity loans and, to a certain extent, student loans are considered good debt, which experts say you don't have to rush to pay off early. The government allows you to deduct interest payments on these loans come tax time. Also, good debt actually helps your credit record—as long as you make your payments on time.

Money Talk\$



GOOD HANDS™

THE EBONY ADVISOR

Expert Advice on Love and Relationships

'Should I kick my on-again, off-again lover to the curb?'

I am 18 years old and I have been having sex with this guy on and off for about a year and a half. One minute he is with me; we're having sex and calling each other every day. Then all of a sudden he is gone again, and I don't hear from him for four to five months at a time. Then he calls one day out of the blue and we start talking and having sex again. Then he is gone again. When he was gone one time, he messed with my half-sister (we have the same father). I love this guy, but I am scared to tell him because I think he will hurt me. Should I kick him to the curb or hold on to him? S.B., Statesboro, Ga.

Kick him to the curb! Quickly! Besides, you don't have anything to hold on to. As you acknowledge, most times he is not with you anyway. The fact that he slept with your sister is despicable. You are young and have made a terrible mistake by continuing to let this man use you for his sexual pleasure. There is no reason for you to continue to be a fool. Break this senseless pattern of emotional abuse and manipulation. You do not love him (and he surely does not love you). You don't even know what love is. And you never will as long as you let this man control your life and time. You deserve better. Kick him to the curb and move on.

My boyfriend and I have been together for two years. We recently found an apartment and have been living together for six months. We both come from Christian families. My problem is that in order for him to go to church with me, I have to beg him and sometimes that doesn't even work. We do plan to get married in the next five years, but I want everyone in my household to be involved with church. How can I make him understand that his involvement in church would mean a great deal to me? When we discuss why he would rather stay home and sleep, he says when he goes to church, it seems as if the preacher is always talking to him. T.H., Iowa

That may very well be. We'll assume that you have prayed and asked God for guidance on how to handle your dilemma of loving a man who does not want to attend church with you. In response to your question, you seem to have done about all you can do to make your man understand how important it is that he attends church with you. What you should do now is focus on your own spiritual growth and decide what your priorities are. Is the fact that he may never be into church as much as you going to pose a major obstacle in your relationship? If so, you probably should direct your heart elsewhere. Talk to your minister. Continue to pray. And keep in mind that you cannot get your man into heaven. That's one journey he will have to make on his own.

My boyfriend and I have lived together for two years. For the most part, he is a great guy—loving, caring, helpful, understanding. We've talked about getting married. However, sometimes without warning, he gets angry, mean, runs up our phone bill, and wastes a lot of money on things he normally wouldn't buy. During those times, he dresses oddly, acts strange and talks about buying a big house and having a huge wedding, neither of which we can afford. When I point this out to him, he becomes angry and shouts, and it scares me. He won't eat and stays up all night. These dramatic changes have occurred about five times since we've been together. At first I thought he was on drugs. While looking for evidence of drug use, I found papers about "manic depression." What does that mean? Is he just severely depressed, or does that mean he is mentally ill? I love him dearly and want to spend my life with him, but I don't want to be afraid. D.M., Southfield, Mich.

Chicago psychiatrist Dr. Helen Davis Gardner says manic depression, or bipolar disorder, is an illness that affects how people think, feel and behave. It is a common mental health disorder that affects about 2 million people in the U.S. Men and women are affected equally. The usual age of onset is late adolescence or early adulthood, and it affects people across the board, regardless of education level, class, race or nationality. Manic depression is characterized by recurring episodes of mania (highs) and depression (lows). Among the symptoms are irritability, inflated self-esteem, feeling unusually good, being very sociable, decreased need for sleep, increased energy, rapid or loud speech, poor concentration, agitation, reckless behavior (such as excessive spending and gambling), reckless driving and poor business decisions. Symptoms of the "depression" side of the ailment include sadness, crying spells, low self-esteem, negative thoughts, decreased interest in usually pleasurable activities (such as sex), loss of appetite, weight changes, sleep disturbances, social withdrawal, lack of concentration, indecisiveness, and recurring thoughts of death and suicide. Symptoms vary considerably from person to person, and from episode to episode. Moods may shift rapidly from anger, mania or depression, and may last just moments, hours or even days. Untreated, manic depression can be devastating with great personal suffering, disrupted relationships and derailed careers, in addition to the risk of death from suicide and accident. Dr. Gardner says that proper care from a psychiatrist, however, can be effective in returning people to a more healthy and productive life. Talk to your boyfriend about his problem. Be supportive. Make sure he gets professional help so that his life will continue to be productive. □

The EBONY Advisor is a question-and-answer column designed to help our readers with their problems. Answers to all questions are thoroughly researched and, if necessary, checked with competent psychiatrists, psychologists, medical doctors, sociologists and other experts in family counseling.

If you have questions, please send them to The EBONY Advisor, EBONY Magazine, 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605. Only the initials and cities of those submitting questions will be published. Because of the large volume of mail we receive, we cannot send personal replies.



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'Can the new fat-blocking diet drug help me lose 10 stubborn pounds?'**NEW FAT-BLOCKING DIET DRUG**

I have been taking a variety of steps to lose some weight for years, and I've almost gotten to where I want to be. I work out and watch my diet, but for some reason, I can't seem to get rid of these last few pounds to reach my target weight of 155. Can the new fat-blocking diet drug help me to lose 10 stubborn pounds so that I can feel good about myself again? S.M., Camden, N.J.

You already should feel good about yourself because you have taken significant steps to live a healthier life. However, the new fat-blocking diet drug, Xenical, was not designed with you (and others like you) in mind—dieters who want to lose about 10 pounds. The drug that blocks much of the body's intake of fat, rather than—like most diet drugs—suppressing appetite, is recommended only for those people who are severely overweight (at least 20 percent above ideal body weight). Physicians say Xenical prevents enzymes in the intestines from breaking down fat into smaller molecules that can be absorbed into the body and thereby reduces overall fat intake by about 30 percent. In essence, the diet drug cuts a person's total calorie intake.

Obesity is considered a serious health problem in the U.S.—among young and old—and doctors say it contributes to such serious conditions as high blood pressure, diabetes or high cholesterol.

In your case, continue to eat properly and stick to your exercise program. You not only will eventually get rid of those hard-to-lose pounds, but you'll experience other benefits associated with physical fitness and a well-balanced diet.

GENERIC DRUGS OR BRAND-NAME DRUGS?

I have questions about whether to use generic drugs or brand-name drugs. Generic drugs are usually cheaper than the brand-name drugs, and I want to know if that means generic drugs are not as good and are less effective. Should I always choose the generic drugs or does it depend on the medical condition? L.J., New Orleans

The term generic implies less expensive, lower quality and a product that's not as effective as brand-name products. But doctors say this is generally not the case with pharmaceuticals. Drugs are often known by a variety of names. When a drug is first discovered,

it's given a chemical name, and when the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves the drug for general prescribing, it's given two additional names—a generic name and a brand name, identifying it as the property of a particular manufacturer.

Doctors say generic drugs, which must be the "therapeutic equivalent" of brand-name drugs, generally do as good a job as brand-name drugs, but at a much lower cost. So far, there is no data that indicate that an FDA-approved generic drug is inferior to the brand-name ones. Even so, some doctors choose to recommend brand-name drugs because some medical conditions require particularly careful dosing.

Talk with your physician to see if a generic drug is right for you. Not all prescribed drugs have an FDA-approved generic equivalent, but the FDA publishes a book, *Approved Drug Products With Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations* (commonly called "the Orange Book"), that lists all FDA-approved medications and identifies generic drugs that the FDA considers therapeutically equivalent to brand-name drugs. If your doctor or pharmacist doesn't have access to the book, you can find answers to your questions at www.accessdata.fda.gov/ob/default.htm on the Web.

SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT OF ROSACEA

I'm a 38-year-old woman who, as far as I know, is not allergic to anything, but my face is often red and pimply. What could be the cause of my problem that's causing so much frustration? E.B., St. Paul, Minn.

Your problem could be the condition known as rosacea, a skin disorder that's characterized by redness, tiny pimples and broken blood vessels that are usually on the central area of the face. Doctors say the cause isn't known and those with the disorder should avoid foods that cause blood vessels in the skin to dilate—spicy foods, alcohol, coffee and other forms of caffeine. Antibiotics and tetracyclines can improve the condition, so you should see a dermatologist. □

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My determination to succeed

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CLARITIN® brand of loratadine TABLETS, SYRUP, and RAPIDLY-DISINTEGRATING TABLETS

Brief Summary (For Full Prescribing Information, see package insert).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: CLARITIN is indicated for the relief of nasal and non-nasal symptoms of seasonal allergic rhinitis and for the treatment of chronic idiopathic urticaria in patients 6 years of age or older.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: CLARITIN is contraindicated in patients who are hypersensitive to this medication or to any of its ingredients.

PRECAUTIONS: **General:** Patients with liver impairment or renal insufficiency (GFR < 30 mL/min) should be given a lower initial dose (10 mg every other day). (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Special Populations.)

Drug Interactions: Loratadine (10 mg once daily) has been coadministered with therapeutic doses of erythromycin, cimetidine, and ketoconazole in controlled clinical pharmacology studies in adult volunteers. Although increased plasma concentrations (AUC 0-24 hrs) of loratadine and/or desloratadine were observed following coadministration of loratadine with each of these drugs in normal volunteers (n = 24 in each study), there were no clinically relevant changes in the safety profile of loratadine, as assessed by electrocardiographic parameters, clinical laboratory tests, vital signs, and adverse events. There were no significant effects on QTc intervals, and no reports of sedation or syncope. No effects on plasma concentrations of cimetidine or ketoconazole were observed. Plasma concentrations (AUC 0-24 hrs) of erythromycin decreased 15% with coadministration of loratadine relative to that observed with erythromycin alone. The clinical relevance of this difference is unknown. These above findings are summarized in the following table:

Effects on Plasma Concentrations (AUC 0-24 hrs) of Loratadine and Desloratadine

(After 10 Days of Coadministration)

	Loratadine 10 mg QD n = 1926	Desloratadine 5 mg QD n = 1926
Erythromycin (500 mg Q8h)	+ 40%	+ 46%
Cimetidine (300 mg QID)	+ 103%	+ 6%
Ketoconazole (200 mg QID)	+ 137%	+ 73%

There does not appear to be an increase in adverse events in subjects who received oral contraceptives and loratadine.

Cardiogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: In an 18-month carcinogenicity study in mice and a 2-year study in rats, loratadine was administered in the diet at doses up to 40 mg/kg (mice) and 25 mg/kg (rats). In the carcinogenicity studies, pharmacologic assessments were carried out to determine animal exposure to the drug. AUC data demonstrated that the exposure of mice given 40 mg/kg of loratadine was 3.6 (loratadine) and 18 (desloratadine) times higher than in humans given the maximum recommended daily oral dose. Exposure of rats given 25 mg/kg of loratadine was 28 (loratadine) and 67 (desloratadine) times higher than in humans given the maximum recommended daily oral dose. Male mice given 40 mg/kg had a significantly higher incidence of hepatocellular tumors (combined adenomas and carcinomas) than concurrent controls. In rats, a significantly higher incidence of hepatocellular tumors (combined adenomas and carcinomas) was observed in males given 10 mg/kg and males and females given 25 mg/kg. The clinical significance of these findings during long-term use of CLARITIN is not known.

In mutagenicity studies, there was no evidence of mutagenic potential in reverse (Ames) or forward point mutation (CHO-HGPRT) assays, or in the assay for DNA damage (rat primary hepatocyte unscheduled DNA assay) or in two assays for chromosomal aberrations (human peripheral blood lymphocyte clastogenesis assay and the mouse bone marrow erythrocyte micronucleus assay). In the mouse lymphoma assay, a positive finding occurred in the nonactivated but not the activated phase of the study.

Decreased fertility in male rats, shown by lower female conception rates, occurred at an oral dose of 64 mg/kg (approximately 50 times the maximum recommended human daily oral dose on a mg/m² basis) and was reversible with cessation of dosing. Loratadine had no effect on male or female fertility or reproduction in the rat at an oral dose of approximately 24 mg/kg (approximately 20 times the maximum recommended human daily oral dose on a mg/m² basis).

Frequency Category B: There was no evidence of animal teratogenicity in studies performed in rats and rabbits at oral doses up to 96 mg/kg (approximately 75 times and 150 times, respectively, the maximum recommended human daily oral dose on a mg/m² basis). There are, however, no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, CLARITIN should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers: Loratadine and its metabolite, desloratadine, pass easily into breast milk and achieve concentrations that are equivalent to plasma levels with an AUC₀₋₁₂/AUC₀₋₂₄ ratio of 1:1.7 and 0.85 for loratadine and desloratadine, respectively. Following a single oral dose of 40 mg, a small amount of loratadine and desloratadine was excreted into the breast milk (approximately 0.03% of oral dose over 48 hours). A decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother. Caution should be exercised when CLARITIN is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use: The safety of CLARITIN Syrup at a daily dose of 10 mg has been demonstrated in 188 pediatric patients 6-12 years of age in placebo-controlled 2-week trials. The effectiveness of CLARITIN for the treatment of seasonal allergic rhinitis and chronic idiopathic urticaria in this pediatric age group is based on an extrapolation of the demonstrated efficacy of CLARITIN in adults in these conditions and the likelihood that the disease course, pathophysiology, and the drug's effect are substantially similar to that of the adults. The recommended dose for the pediatric population is based on cross-study comparison of the pharmacokinetics of CLARITIN in adults and pediatric subjects and on the safety profile of loratadine in both adults and pediatric patients at doses equal to or higher than the recommended doses. The safety and effectiveness of CLARITIN in pediatric patients under 6 years of age have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: CLARITIN Tablets: Approximately 90,000 patients, aged 12 and older, received CLARITIN Tablets 10 mg once daily in controlled and uncontrolled studies. Placebo-controlled clinical trials in this population included doses of 10 mg once a day versus 10 mg twice a day for 6 months' duration. The rate of premature withdrawal from these trials was approximately 2% in both the treated and placebo groups.

REPORTED ADVERSE EVENTS WITH AN INCIDENCE OF MORE THAN 2% IN PLACEBO-CONTROLLED ALLERGIC RHINITIS CLINICAL TRIALS IN PATIENTS 12 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER

PERCENT OF PATIENTS REPORTING

	LORATADINE 10 mg QD n = 1926	PLACEBO n = 2545	CLEMASTINE 1 mg BID n = 536	TERFENADINE 60 mg BID n = 684
Headache	12	11	8	8
Somnolence	8	6	22	9
Fatigue	4	10	10	2
Dry Mouth	3	2	4	3

Adverse events reported in placebo-controlled chronic idiopathic urticaria trials were similar to those reported in allergic rhinitis studies.

Adverse event rates did not appear to differ significantly based on age, sex, or race, although the number of nonwhite subjects was relatively small.

CLARITIN REDIBATS (loratadine rapidly-disintegrating tablets): Approximately 500 patients received CLARITIN REDIBATS (loratadine rapidly-disintegrating tablets) in controlled clinical trials of 2 weeks' duration. In these studies, adverse events were similar in type and frequency to those seen with CLARITIN Tablets and placebo.

Administration of CLARITIN REDIBATS (loratadine rapidly-disintegrating tablets) did not result in an increased reporting frequency of mouth or tongue irritation.

CLARITIN Syrup: Approximately 300 pediatric patients 6 to 12 years of age received 10 mg loratadine once daily in controlled clinical trials for a period of 8-15 days. Among these, 188 children were treated with 10 mg loratadine syrup once daily in placebo-controlled trials. Adverse events in these pediatric patients were observed to occur with type and frequency similar to those seen in the adult population. The rate of premature discontinuance due to adverse events among pediatric patients receiving loratadine 10 mg daily was less than 1%.

ADVERSE EVENTS OCCURRING WITH A FREQUENCY OF ≥ 2% IN LORATADINE SYRUP-TREATED PATIENTS (6-12 YEARS OLD) IN PLACEBO-CONTROLLED TRIALS, AND MORE FREQUENTLY THAN IN THE PLACEBO GROUP

	LORATADINE 10 mg QD n = 188	PLACEBO n = 262	CHLORPHENIRAMINE 2-4 mg QID/TID n = 170
Nervousness	4	2	2
Wheezing	4	2	2
Fatigue	3	2	5
Hypertension	3	1	1
Abdominal Pain	2	0	0
Conjunctivitis	2	1	2
Dysphonia	2	<1	0
Melaise	2	<1	1
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	2	<1	0

In addition to those adverse events reported above (≥ 2%), the following adverse events have been reported in at least one patient in CLARITIN clinical trials in adult and pediatric patients:

Autonomic Nervous System: Altered lacrimation, altered salivation, flushing, hypoesthesia, impotence, increased sweating, thirst.

Body As A Whole: Angioneurotic edema, asthma, back pain, blurred vision, chest pain, earache, eye pain, fever, leg cramps, malaise, rigors, linitis, viral infection, weight gain.

Cardiovascular System: Hypertension, hypotension, palpitations, supraventricular tachyarrhythmias, syncope, tachycardia.

Central and Peripheral Nervous System: Biphosphosm, dizziness, dysphonia, hypertension, migraine, paresthesia, tremor, vertigo.

Gastrointestinal System: Altered taste, anorexia, constipation, diarrhea, dyspepsia, flatulence, gastritis, hiccup, increased appetite, nausea, stomatitis, toothache, vomiting.

Musculoskeletal System: Arthralgia, myalgia.

Psychiatric: Agitation, anxiety, confusion, decreased libido, depression, impaired concentration, insomnia, irritability, paranoia.

Reproductive System: Breast pain, dysmenorrhea, menorrhagia, vaginitis.

Respiratory System: Bronchitis, bronchospasm, coughing, dyspnea, epistaxis, hemoptysis, laryngitis, nasal dryness, pharyngitis, sinusitis, sneezing.

Skin and Appendages: Dermatitis, dry hair, dry skin, photosensitivity reaction, pruritus, purpura, rash, urticaria.

Urinary System: Altered micturition, urinary discoloration, urinary incontinence, urinary retention.

In addition, the following spontaneous adverse events have been reported rarely during the marketing of loratadine: abnormal hepatic function, including jaundice, hepatitis, and hepatic necrosis; alopecia; anaphylaxis; breast enlargement; erythema multiforme; peripheral edema; and seizures.

OVERDOSEAGE: In adults; somnolence, tachycardia, and headache have been reported with overdoses greater than 10 mg with the Tablet formulation (40 to 180 mg). Extrapyramidal signs and

palpitations have been reported in children with overdoses of greater than 10 mg of CLARITIN Syrup. In the event of overdose, general symptomatic and supportive measures should be instituted promptly and maintained for as long as necessary.

Treatment of overdose would reasonably consist of emesis (ipecac syrup), except in patients with impaired consciousness, followed by the administration of activated charcoal to absorb any remaining drug. If vomiting is unsuccessful, or contraindicated, gastric lavage should be performed with normal saline. Saline cathartics may also be of value for rapid dilution of bowel contents. Loratadine is not eliminated by hemodialysis. It is not known if loratadine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis.

No deaths occurred at oral doses up to 5000 mg/kg in rats and mice (greater than 2400 and 1200 times, respectively, the maximum recommended human daily oral dose on a mg/m² basis). Single oral doses of loratadine showed no effects in rats, mice, and monkeys at doses as high as 10 times the maximum recommended human daily oral dose on a mg/m² basis.

Schering

Schering Corporation
Kenilworth, NJ 07033 USA

Rev. 1/99

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CLARITIN REDIBATS (loratadine rapidly-disintegrating tablets) are manufactured for Schering Corporation by Schering DDC, England.

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Regina Brown Daniels gets hugs from her stepchildren, Maxine, 13, and George, 10, while visiting their school in Chicago. The entertainment media executive says she has a great relationship with the children, as well as with their mother, Dorothy Thomas. "At first we both were feeling our way," says Daniels. "But once we both realized that getting along would benefit the children, everything was fine. We often laugh and talk now." Says Thomas of Daniels: "I don't consider her a stepmom, or anything 'step.' She's super. Anyone who can't get beyond whatever happened in past relationships must get over it. It's all about the children."

Pilar Biggers Sanders (below) poses with husband, NFL football great Deion Sanders, and his children, Deiondra and Deion Jr., at their wedding in the Bahamas. "It's hard for stepparents," says Pilar, "but, it is really hard for the children—traveling to other cities, different environments, expectations and rules, adapting, peer pressure."

Today's Stepmother:

Myths And Realities

STEPHANIE STEVENS was not prepared for sudden motherhood. After college, she lived happily single for 10 years. Then she met and fell in love with a divorced financial analyst who is the father of two children. They married after a six-month courtship, and Stevens immediately was thrust into a world that was foreign to her. She moved from her city condo to a suburban home, and she immediately became stepmother to two unruly adolescents.

Though she still hopes to have children of her own, she is getting a fast and furious taste of motherhood. Despite the many hours each week she spends transporting and otherwise caring for the children, they don't hesitate to tell her, "You're not my mother!" Overall she feels unappreciated and deprived of the privacy and romance she had assumed would come with marriage. To top it off, she has to interact with the ex-wife, the children's mother, who does not mask her contempt for Stevens and her new marriage.

No woman dreams of becoming a stepmother, but





Late night in the city
and two strangers stop
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He's driving the 2000 Neon.



She breaks the ice by asking
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her he likes being spoiled.



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Connie Robinson poses for family portrait with her husband, Barry Robinson, his daughter, Nicole, and the couple's newborn son, David. An executive with Sara Lee Corp., Robinson says she and Nicole have established a close relationship. "Marrying a man with children can be very challenging," she says. "You have to be emotionally strong, but also willing to compromise. If you tend to be possessive, it's probably not a good idea."

TODAY'S STEPMOTHER *Continued*

that parental role is becoming a reality for an increasing number of women like Stevens. Rather than starting a family in the traditional way—having a baby of their own—many are immersed into motherhood the day they jump the broom—as stepmothers.

Because many women are marrying later, there is a good chance the husband will have children from an earlier marriage. There are 15 million stepmothers in the United States. With the escalating divorce rate and more than two-thirds of divorced or widowed individuals choosing to remarry, the number of families with either a stepmother or stepfather is rapidly increasing. Nearly 40 percent of all families today are stepfamilies.

In fact, more than half the Americans alive today have been, are now or eventually will be in one or more stepfamily situations during their lifetimes. One-third of all children today are expected to become stepchildren before they reach the age of 18. In addition, African-American children are more likely to live in stepfamilies. About 32 percent of Black children under age 18 who reside in married-couple families do so with a stepparent.

Among celebrities there are numerous well-known stepmothers, including Whitney Houston and Jada Pinkett Smith. Oprah Winfrey also is very close to the daughter of her long-time beau, Stedman Graham. In fact, Oprah spoke at his daughter's college graduation.

Loving and concerned celebrity stepmoms may help dispel the myth and perception that the stepmother is mean and evil, or that she is a home-wrecker. Stepmothers are portrayed negatively in fairy tales children learn before they start kindergarten, and that image is reinforced by portrayals of stepmothers in movies and books.

Contrary to the stereotype, today's stepmother most likely is a pleasant, caring woman who is making a valiant effort to fill this difficult role. Such is the case with Pilar Sanders, who recently married NFL superstar Deion Sanders in a storybook wedding in the Bahamas after a nine-month courtship. Pilar says she and Sanders' two children, Deiondra, 9, and

Deion Jr., 5, hit it off from the beginning. "We have always had open conversations about their mother, and I don't try to take their mother's place," Pilar says. "And we don't even use the term 'step.' I hate that word. The children and I don't introduce each other as 'stepmom' or 'step-child.'"

Pilar goes on to say that she had no apprehension about being a stepmother. "But growing up I always said I would never marry a man who had a child," she reveals. "Later in life I realized that whole idea was unfair. After meeting Deion and establishing a relationship, I wanted to meet his children and he part of their lives."

Often the stepmother is a working woman (such as Pilar, a model) whose life already is

filled with the pressures of a career or job. In addition to getting adjusted to her new husband and the institution of marriage, she often has to deal with the stress of trying to relate to a child who is prejudiced against her by the birth mother. Adolescence and teen years are difficult times for parents and kids anyway. Tension is inevitable. "You have to learn how to traverse a minefield of emotions, yours, your husband's and the kids'," says therapist Sue Patton Thoele, author of *The Courage To Be A Stepmom*.

Sharon Cunningham of Tustin, Calif., has negotiated that minefield. Nine years ago she married her "childhood sweetheart," Zolton, and with that union came her husband's daughter, Brittany, now age 12. "Being a stepmother is challenging, to say the least," says Cunningham, who with her husband operates a workshop and a board-and-care home for the mentally disabled. "Just dealing with the mother, and trying to be a mother to my own three children and mother to Brittany when she is here is a challenge. Her mother has her rules, and we have our rules here, just trying to make those two meet has been a real challenge."

"Now that Brittany is going into adolescence, she wants the answer to a lot of questions, like what happened with her mom and dad, and how I played into that. Now she's asking me about sex, and oh, Lord, I don't want to step on her mother's toes on that subject. I'm trying to be peacemaker."

As peacemaker or the source of unrest, these are just a few of the issues that Cunningham and other stepmothers must deal with on a daily basis. Stepmothers view themselves as the primary caregivers in the blended family, and they usually bend over backwards in an effort to hold the family together. Today's woman enters the marriage with the attitude that "I can do this," which is often her approach to other challenges, but she soon finds that this particular task is more ominous than she imagined.

Based on interviews with stepmothers and various family therapists, the following are some of the realities of being a stepmother in today's world:

• Your husband's children may not accept and love you

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my dog didn't scratch so much.

I wish my cat



didn't shed so much.

I wish my dog



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I wish my older cat



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TODAY'S STEPMOTHER *Continued*

instantly. Most times, it is just the opposite. The stepmom is not viewed as a second mother, but rather as an outsider, as the woman who is "taking my daddy." Or as the "woman my mother hates." If the birth mother dislikes you, she likely will share her feelings with her child, and he or she will at first dislike you. In time, however, these obstacles can be overcome.

****** The role of the stepmother is not clearly defined. In fact, the role of the stepmother changes with each situation, and from day-to-day and week-to-week. Some days she may pick the kids up from school, or take them to one of their activities. Yet, she might not be invited to the child's music recital or soccer game. When the father is around, she might leave discipline up to him, but what does she do when she is alone with the child?

****** The stepmom likely will be continuously undermined by the husband's ex. Even if the marriage or relationship ended amicably and long ago, the new wife often is viewed as an interloper, and there may be antagonism and envy. There will be tugs-of-war over the children, and whose rules must be obeyed.

****** The stepmom may feel jealous of the children's mother. Several stepmoms say that at first, they experienced bouts of jealousy when the children's father and mother spent time with the children in her absence. "I knew it was ridiculous, but he was spending a lot of time talking to this woman with whom he had once been intimate," one stepmom says. "I knew it was all about the children, but at first I couldn't control my rage." Connie Robinson of Chicago says she understands this mother's feelings. "I sometimes have a mild case of jealousy because of the closeness of Barry [her husband]

and Nicole's mom," says the Sara Lee Corp. executive. "But then I say to myself, 'Not to worry—I'm his wife.'"

****** The stepmother's own family may add to the tension by making curt remarks about the children. A 30-something registered nurse who grew up with a stepmother recalls the hurt she experienced as a teen when her stepmother's sister made it clear to her that "you are not my niece." "Those words really hurt me," she recalls. "My stepmother and I had built a good relationship, and I always considered and referred to her as 'my mother.'"

****** Stepmons often feel unappreciated. Taking on the role of stepmother often is a thankless job. Mothers usually are the primary caregivers, and stepmothers usually are expected to step in and pick up the pieces where someone else has left off. She spends hours and hours caring for the children, yet they constantly complain. The husband likely is dealing with his own pressures in regards to his job, the kids and the ex-wife, and he may not pay attention to all the effort you put forth. Many stepmons who start out with enthusiasm and patience end up disillusioned because they simply cannot do everything that is expected of them.

Despite the challenges, many stepmothers find the experience quite rewarding. Gwendolyn Tomlin, who works in human resources in Philadelphia, says she has surmounted a number of obstacles concerning her stepdaughter during her nine-year marriage to career Marine Roderick Tomlin. Today, she and the daughter are close, and she feels that the battles were worth it. "When we got married, Roshanna was 12 or so. She was at that age where she felt, 'Who are you?' 'Why are you taking my dad?' I had already established a relationship with her dad, and I knew it was a package deal.



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Regina and George Daniels of Chicago greet his children, Maxine and George, after school. "My role with the kids is more of a good friend, a mentor," says Regina. Her work calls for her to travel often, and she has taken the children with her to Disney World, Aruba and to Philadelphia to see historical sites.

When I said 'I love you' to him, I was saying 'I love you' to her. I was brought up to feel that a child is a child, and it is our responsibility as adults to treat children fairly. Now that Roshanna is an adult and has a child of her own, she tells me how much she appreciates all the time and effort I've given her over the years. She says someday she hopes to have a good relationship with a husband as I have with her father. The door is always open. I will always be here for her."

Connie Robinson says she enjoys her relationship with her husband's 15-year-old daughter, Nicole, because she is not solely responsible for her. "That frees us up to have a more open relationship," says Robinson. "She doesn't have to worry about me judging her, putting her on punishment, suspending her allowance . . . But I do get concerned about her grades, her relationships with boys, the friends she chooses, but I can talk to her about it in a different way than I could if she thought of me as a parent. I get the benefits of having a teen daughter without the angst that comes with being her mom."

Sharon Cunningham says she feels so close to her husband's daughter that she never refers to her as *stepdaughter*. "She chose to call me 'mom.' It was not forced on her," she says. "My family members consider her one of ours. When my mother counts her grandkids, she includes Brittany. She's one of us. I don't consider myself a *stepmom*. I am a parent. She is mine, just as our other three children are." □



Secrets To A Sexier, Shapelier New You



Chicagoan **Brigitte Clark** demonstrates proper form for crunches, which give you a flat, sexy stomach by targeting abdominal muscles. Crunches also reduce neck and lower-back strain, a common side effect of standard sit-ups. A workout program that includes a variety of exercises and is combined with a balanced diet can extend your life, doctors say.

THE secret is out. If you snatch just a few minutes to perform these simple toning exercises every other day, you can say bye-bye in a few weeks to your jelly belly, thunder thighs, flabby arms and saggy rump.

AWESOME ABS

Crunches work the stomach muscles in a way that conventional sit-ups can't—by isolating abdominals so the hips, back and legs can't do the bulk of the work. Crunches also reduce strain to your neck and lower back—a common side effect of standard sit-ups—since the torso is curled only slightly off the floor. To get the most from crunches, keep your stomach tight, perform slow, controlled movements and remember to breathe—inhalation when you lift, exhalation when you lower. For each exercise, do sets of 10 to 20.

Basic Crunch (works upper abs)

Lie on your back with knees bent and feet flat on the floor. You can either rest your hands lightly behind your head or cross them in front of you. Lift by curling your head, neck and shoulders up and forward until your shoulder blades are slightly off the floor. Pause, then slowly lower to your starting position and repeat. *Alternate move:* Instead of keeping feet on the floor, lie on your back with heels on the edge of a chair seat or low surface, knees bent at a 90-degree angle and hips directly under knees. Don't cheat by digging your feet into the chair when you lift.

Twisting Crunch (works abs and waist)

Begin in the same position as with the basic crunch—on your back, knees bent, feet flat. With your hands behind your head and elbows out to the sides,

lift and curl as you would with a basic crunch, but twist your torso to the left as you lift. Twist so that your right elbow crosses toward your left knee. Release and lower to your starting position. Repeat, alternating directions. You also can perform this exercise with your feet on a chair.

Reverse Crunch (works lower abs)

In basic-crunch position with heels on chair's edge, contract abdominals by lifting only your hips no more than 2 inches off the floor. Pause, then lower to floor and repeat.

With each raise, your upper back should be flat against the floor and your upper body should not be moving. *Alternate moves:* Same starting position without the chair. Keep your back and arms flat on the floor, and raise and lower hips. To also work upper abs, simultaneously curl upper body (as in a basic




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Sculptured arms can be the result of a regular routine of lifting weights. When lifting, choose weights heavy enough to give you a challenge without making it impossible to finish your workout.

your butt and the backs of legs flush against the wall. Start with your legs together, straight up and extended toward the ceiling. Keeping your heels on the wall, slowly move your legs as close to the floor as you can. You should feel a stretch, but not pain. Pause a few seconds in the lowered position, then slowly pull legs to the starting position and repeat. Keep your abs tight and work both legs equally.

Lunges (works quadriceps and buttocks)

Stand with your back straight, feet together and arms flat at your sides. Step forward with your right foot, bending your left knee to the floor as you step. For proper form, keep your back straight as you bend and don't extend your right knee past your toes. Stand up straight and repeat, leading with the opposite leg. Alternate legs as you lunge. *Alternate move:* Lunge while holding a pair of lightweight dumbbells at your sides.

BODACIOUS BUNS

Whether you have too much junk in your trunk or not enough, squats and rear leg scissors will shape up your best asset—your buttocks. As with lunges, start slowly so you won't overwork your muscles. Begin with one to two sets of 10 to 12 repetitions, and gradually increase sets as they become easier to complete.

Squats (works buttocks, hamstrings, quads, inner and outer thighs)

Stand with feet shoulder-width apart and arms held straight out in front of you. Squat slowly until your thighs are parallel to the ground, keeping your back straight and knees directly over ankles. Use your buttocks to rise slowly to a standing position and repeat.

Rear Leg Scissors (works gluteals)

Lie on your stomach with your hands under your thighs. With your legs raised off the floor as high as possible, move your feet apart a short distance, then bring them together, crossing one leg over the other. Repeat, crossing the opposite leg on top. Complete your set by alternating legs. During the exercise, you should feel your buttocks contracting.

ALLURING ARMS

When weight lifting, remember that

BODY TALK *Continued*

crunch) and hips toward each other.

TANTALIZING THIGHS

Lunges stretch and firm up the front muscles of the thighs—the quadriceps—with the added bonus of tightening the buttocks. For lunges, don't overdo it, or you'll have some pain. Start slowly with one set of 10 steps in

one direction, then 10 the other. Gradually increase sets as they get easier to complete. Inner thigh squeezes target those pesky, hard-to-reach inner thigh muscles. If your inner thighs are a major problem area, aim to do three sets of 8 to 12 reps.

Inner Thigh Squeeze (works inner thighs)

Lie on your back facing a wall with

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Proper form and controlled movement help avoid injuries and give you the most from your workout. When performing crunches (above), keep your stomach tight, lightly support your head with your hands and only lift your torso slightly.

BODYTALK *Continued*

low weight, high repetition will give you sexy, sculptured arms that are strong in definition yet light in bulk. Weights should be heavy enough to give you a challenge without making it impossible to complete your sets. For biceps curl and military press, beginners should start with 5-pound dumbbells and perform sets of 8 to 12 reps. Gradually increase the weight as the reps feel easier. For push-up and triceps dip, do each exercise in sets of 8 to 10.

Biceps Curl (*works biceps*)

Standing, hold dumbbells in each hand with palms facing outward. Curl both arms at the same time toward shoulders using slow, controlled movements. Lower to starting position with-

out locking elbows and repeat.

Military Press (*works front and outer shoulder muscles*)

Stand with feet shoulder-width apart and hold dumbbells at your shoulders. Your palms should face forward. Keeping your back straight and your chest up, slowly push weights up and over your head until they touch. Lower with slow, controlled movement to starting position and repeat. Exhale as you push up.

Modified Push-Up (*works triceps, chest and front of shoulders*)

Instead of starting in the standard straight-leg position, keep knees bent and on the floor. Hands and arms should be spread slightly more than shoulder-width apart. Bend elbows and

lower chest to the floor. Straighten arms to starting position and repeat. As you push-up, keep your abs tight and your head in line with your body. *Alternate more:* Prop the back of a sturdy chair against a wall and kneel facing the seat. With elbows straight, hold both sides of the seat and bend arms as with regular push-ups.

Triceps Dip (*works triceps*)

Sit on a chair or low surface, then lower yourself—with your hands holding the front edge of the seat for support—into a squat. Legs should be bent at 90-degree angles and your feet should be flat on the floor. Push up until your arms are extended, but not locked, then lower to starting position and repeat.

If you continue these exercises for a few short weeks, you will soon say hello to a sexier, shapelier new you. □

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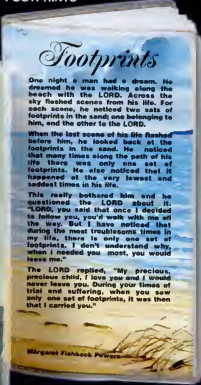
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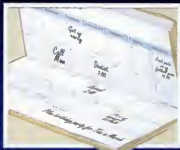
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EXCLUSIVE

'ER' Star Eriq LaSalle



Tells Why He Balked At Interracial TV Love Affair

By Aldore D. Collier

ON *ER*, television's highest-rated series, Dr. Peter Benton is the sort of guy who easily unifies the sexes. Both men and women love to hate him in equal proportions. He's opinionated and monumentally arrogant to the point of weekly increasing the blood pressure of viewers.

Not exactly the type of character one might associate with chivalry. Well, his alter ego, actor Eriq LaSalle has turned out to be just that in the eyes of many Black women.

In the NBC series (entering its sixth season) about the day-to-day dramas inside and outside a busy Chicago hospital emergency room, LaSalle's character of Benton spent the

Star of popular television program, *ER*, Eriq LaSalle (above) stunned the entertainment world when he balked at an interracial affair with Alex Kingston (in cast picture, fourth from l.) on the show. LaSalle suggested that *ER* should also promote healthy relationships between Black men and Black women.

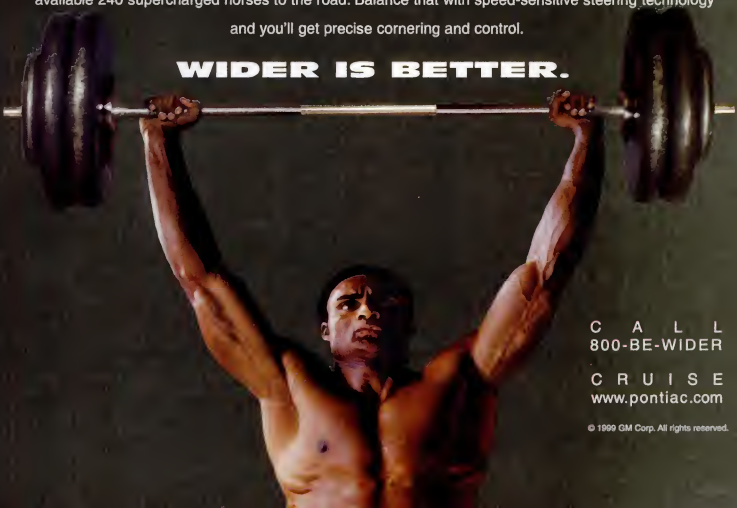




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ERIQ LASALLE *Continued*

last season involved in a steamy, well-received relationship with the attractive White British physician Elizabeth Corday (Alex Kingston).

LaSalle made national headlines when he did something actors rarely do. He asked the producers of the series to write out the relationship between the two. Benton previously had intimate relations with characters played by Gloria Reuben (who plays a nurse living with HIV) and Lisa Nicole Carson, the mother of his young son.

"The issue I had was that the show has, in my opinion, not shown a three-dimensional, balanced, Black-on-Black relationship. As a matter of fact, I just felt that the two relationships that I had with Black women were very dysfunctional and not as explored. And then when I got into the interracial relation-

"As a matter of fact, I just felt that the two relationships that I had with Black women [on the TV show] were very dysfunctional and not as explored."

ship, I thought it was a much better-written story line. I think Black women are so sensitive to seeing interracial relationships because they feel they're getting the short end of the stick."

LaSalle made his remarks about the interracial pair last spring on Johnnie Cochran's cable television program. That was all it took for the media from coast-to-coast to jump on it. Everything *ER*-related generates huge headlines. He was even accused in some tabloid publications of fighting with Kingston, a charge both quickly denied.

In his first discussion on the subject since last spring, LaSalle said he wasn't making an political statement against interracial relationships because the Benton/Corday union was artistically handled with exceptional, well-written story lines.

But he felt he had to raise the white flag on the relationship for a much greater good. "I hated ending some-



Before protest. LaSalle said his TV relationships with Black co-stars, Gloria Reuben (left) and Lisa Nicole Carson (below) were riddled with problems. Reuben's character had AIDS and Carson was an unwed mother.



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After receiving one of *ER*'s numerous awards for TV excellence, LaSalle shares the glory with co-star Anthony Edwards. In 1996, the show was voted favorite dramatic TV series at the 22nd annual People's Choice Awards.

ERIQ LASALLE *Continued*

thing that was working, but I felt there was a greater issue. I felt we were inadvertently sending a very strange message that I wasn't comfortable with, which is: Here's a successful Black man who can only have dysfunctional relationships with Black women. But, when he dates outside his race, he is more vulnerable, more open, sweeter, more romantic, sensual. All the things I think

"I think Black women are so sensitive to seeing interracial relationships because they feel they're getting the short end of the stick."

are false. I feel it's a shame we can't point to a positive, three-dimensional, fully developed Black-on-Black relationship in recent memory. As a Black artist and as a Black man, I do have a responsibility to my community not to perpetuate things that are detrimental to my community and myself."

He is quick to praise the producers of *ER* for being so receptive to his concerns. Kingston, he recalls, didn't want to end a relationship that had great chemistry. But, he says, she told him that she understood and accepted his decision. "She said, 'I disagree because I think this relationship is phenomenal.

But, I support you.'"

Not all viewers were as conciliatory. Tons of hate mail flooded NBC when news of the impending demise of the relationship was released. But then there also had been some criticism when the relationship began.

LaSalle doesn't see himself as a crusader or anyone especially heroic, just a Black man taking a stand on an issue about which he is extremely passionate.

For that reason, in addition to voicing his concern to *ER* officials, he also created his own production company, Humble Journey Films, to produce film and television movies. His company did the movie version of John Sandford's hit novel *Mind Prey*. Characters written for White actors were played by minorities. He is soon set to direct the movie version of the life of Elmer (Geronimo) Pratt, the former Black Panther. Sean Penn and Marlon Brando will produce the film.

Before *ER*, LaSalle performed in *Coming To*



Handsome star is pictured with his fiancée, corporate consultant Angela Johnson, at the 55th annual Golden Globe Awards. LaSalle says he didn't make the protest because he opposes interracial relationships, but because he wants to see greater sensitivity in Black-on-Black love relationships in the program's scripts.

America, *Jacob's Ladder* and *Five Corners*. He had done guest stints on *L. A. Law*, *Quantum Leap* and *A Different World*.

Through his production company (which has a deal with Warner Bros.), he is committed to bringing to the large and small screen the enormous diversity of the Black race. "No one has more of a vested interest in our image than we do," he explains. "So, it's incumbent on us to be more instrumental in the development of our images."

"Hollywood has historically shown that it's neither comfortable with nor interested in Black sensuality or Black-on-Black relationships that are the kind of relationships that we know we have, not the kind that people want to make up where we can only communicate by yelling at each other. And we don't just have sex and father a bunch of illegitimate children."

ER is one of the few prime-time programs that have crossover appeal for both Black and White audiences. For that reason, LaSalle sees a certain responsibility to be evenhanded in how characters and relationships are portrayed. "Black people love *ER* and they love to hate the character," he says. "But, they still tune in."

Even though Peter Benton is the character viewers most like to hate, LaSalle points out that he does get some positive mail about him, especially about the gentle and sensitive way he deals with his son, who is deaf.

Jerkiness aside, LaSalle says of Benton: "He's a multilayered character, an intelligent surgeon and the doctor you want if something goes wrong with you."

And now, chances are good that Benton's kinder, gentler side will embrace Black women. Or at least not continue to be characterized by negativity.

Even his personal life raises the ire of some Black people. LaSalle is engaged to a corporate consultant who happens to be light-skinned. "My fiancée is light-skinned and some people give me flack over that." Some want to see him with a darker-skinned woman.

"We have to empower ourselves where no matter what shade we are and no matter what we are, we're comfortable with it," he says. "By putting out positive images, we can begin the process where light-skinned or dark-skinned, we all feel good about ourselves." □

HE SET THE STANDARDS...
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How To Make A Million-Seller CD



New American Dream of hitting it big by selling millions of CDs put Master P on the list of highest-paid entertainers. On the following pages, stars share their secrets of recording chart-topping CDs.

Maxwell's demo tape caught the ear of talent scouts. Monica's performance

at a radio station-sponsored talent show generated buzz. Master P started his own record label. And Boyz II Men snuck backstage at a concert to sing an impromptu a capella audition. The rest, as they say, is history. Each went on to sell millions of albums and attract millions of fans.

If you've ever listened to the latest hot song on the radio and said to yourself, "I could do that," maybe you could. Maybe you're just as talented, if not more, than they are. So why are you still dreaming about it while they're living it? It's not as easy as it looks, and there's no magic formula guaranteed to get you to the top of the charts. But the men and women who came out of the 'hood and hit gold with a million-seller CD say you can do it if you have determination, persistence and originality.

"We wanted to make it in the worst

way," says "Bowlegged" Lou George, a member of the hit-producing and performing group Full Force, "but it's so hard in this business." Like countless other groups, Full Force recorded a demo tape and handed it out to as many people as possible. When a record deal seemed unlikely, the group's co-manager suggested they try producing other artists. In 1984, Full Force co-wrote and produced "Roxanne, Roxanne" for the group U.T.F.O. Originally intended as the B-side of another song, a DJ insisted on playing "Roxanne, Roxanne" instead. The song was a hit, and today is widely considered to be one of the most influential songs in rap history. "In this business, sometimes you don't know which song will be the hit record," he says. "Sometimes what you think will be

a smash ends up not that good, sometimes a song you think sucks ends up a smash. You just really, really never know."

Full Force's originality caught the attention of other artists, and they continued to write and produce million-selling hit songs for themselves and for James Brown, Kurtis Blow, Lisa Lisa and Cult Jam, Selena, the Backstreet Boys and N'Sync.

Could you be the next chart-topping sensation? Anything's possible, but a success story can't survive on talent alone. According to the stars who have done it, the following six steps may help you get your foot in the door:

1. Master your instrument or voice.

There are a lot of people out there who can sing, but even the grandest opera singers in the world take lessons to improve the strength and quality of their voices. Whatever your level of expertise and talent, it doesn't hurt to take lessons. Take private lessons, if you

feelin' it



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can afford them, for personalized one-on-one instruction that can help you develop your strengths and improve your weaknesses. To become a well-rounded musician, learn to play more than one instrument. Many of the world's greatest performers and producers, such as Quincy Jones, The Artist and Wynton Marsalis are prolific on several instruments. Challenge yourself to go beyond your limitations. Listen to those whose work you admire. Study their songs; learn what makes them innovative.

2. Concentrate on making quality music.

Just about anyone can record his own songs, but that doesn't guarantee that a record label will want to invest its money and time developing, promoting and marketing that music. A&R representatives are always saying, "We don't know what we're looking for, but we'll recognize it when we hear it." What they definitely don't want to hear is another look-alike, sound-alike group.

Resist the temptation to make yourself into a carbon-copy of this year's chart-topping performer, because what's hot today may not be so hot tomorrow. Instead of jumping on the bandwagon, do your own thing. Strive to be original, unlike anyone else currently in the market. Even if you like a particular style, add your own special twist to make it your own. Try a different technique than you are familiar with and strive toward developing your own unique sound.

One group that successfully developed its own sound is Naughty by Nature. Best known for their rap-party anthems "Hip-Hop Hooray" and "O.P.P.," the trio sold millions of albums and won several Grammys. Group member KayGee learned that once you find a sound that resonates with fans, it's best to stick with it. "Back when we first came out, I thought that people would get tired of us if we kept putting out the same type of records," he says. "Now, there's so much competition out there that when you're hot, you've got to run with it."

3. Write—and copyright—your own songs.

"It's always good if you know how to write your own songs because that's



Mega-producers and performers Full Force (J.R. (Shy-Shy) Clarke, Gerrard (Baby Gerry) Charles, Curtis Bedeau, Brian (B-Fine) George, Paul (Anthony) George and (Bowlegged) Lou George) have sold millions of CDs.

what keeps you eating," says George, who supported himself with songwriting royalties after surviving a major car accident. "When we were down and out, our songwriting is what kept the checks coming in. If you could learn to write a poem, you could learn to write a song."

As a songwriter, you are essentially inventing a product. Therefore, you have to file a copyright to prevent someone else from profiting from your product, the song. Take the time to visit the library or surf the Internet to learn the steps of filing for copyright protection.

4. Perform live often.

In the early stages of your career, you can pretty much rule out making a living on music alone. Take any and all live gigs that you can get, regardless of pay. Get a job on the side to pay the rent. Perform for the sake of experience and to build a following. In addition, you'll benefit from the positive—or negative—feedback that a live audience provides. As the number of people in your audience goes up, so will the amount that you are paid.

The popular male quartet 112 started out performing in various clubs in Atlanta and built a loyal following. "We just performed as much as we could," says member Michael Keith. "We con-

centrated on getting our name out there and getting people to appreciate our style." After meeting a then-unknown producer named Sean (Puffy) Combs, 112 was signed to the Bad Boy record label. The group's current CD, *Room 112*, is enjoying even more success than their debut.

5. Surround Yourself with Professional People.

Self-management may be necessary in the developing stages of your career, but eventually the day-to-day business dealings will distract from your original focus of making music. Many music insiders caution against hiring family members and close friends, especially if they have no prior experience in the music industry. This doesn't mean you can't make it without a seasoned manager, but it helps. A professional will have good contacts and a good reputation for securing recording and publishing contracts for his clients. Pick someone you can trust with good common sense and business skills.

6. Be Persistent.

To make it to the top of the charts, persistence is key. Record a demo tape and get it to as many people as you can. "The demo doesn't need to be a fancy production," says George. "Some musicians think you have to do things on a



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After singing in a traveling church choir, Monica's performance in a talent show led to an alliance with hot producer Dallas Austin. Barely out of his teens, Maxwell's demo tape won a recording contract that resulted in his highly successful debut, "Maxwell's Urban Hang Suite". His second album is rising in the charts, spawning a top-ten single, "Fortunate".



CDs *Continued*

big, grand scale, but it's not always the case." Time in a professional studio can cost as little as \$15 an hour if your schedule is flexible. If you just want someone to hear your voice, get a karaoke tape and sing over the instrumentals. "As hokey as it might be, you might be able to do a rendition of a song that will impress a producer," says George. "People do get deals like that."

Avoid blind mailings. Try, if you can, to send your demos to a specific person. Be tenacious, but don't be pushy. Remember, at this stage of the game, you need them more than they need you. If they're interested, they'll definitely be in touch. Also, don't limit yourself to big record companies. They get thousands of submissions a day, and there's no guarantee that anyone will ever listen to it.

Participate in music showcases and seminars to expose yourself to people in the industry. Find out when showcases are coming to your town (many are sponsored by local radio stations and record labels), and submit your tapes or attend the auditions. Even if you aren't chosen to perform, attend the workshops and social events so that you can network with industry people. Be prepared to perform at a moment's notice if you have to. Many musical acts have been discovered that way.

Another option is to start your own independent label. Not only has rapper Master P recorded and released his own successful albums on his No Limit Records label, but he has assembled a variety of artists who have also topped the charts. Starting a label is difficult and expensive, but if you want control over all aspects of your CD, it's definitely worth looking into.

The most important thing to remember about the music business is that it is a business. Don't get so caught up in the glamour and excitement that you forget to protect yourself. Learn about all aspects of the profession: royalties, contracts, management, etc. so that you can make the best deal possible. When you know what you're getting yourself into, you can enjoy your success and sleep soundly at night knowing that your efforts are protected. If you aren't prepared, your career could be short-lived.

"This business can break your heart and your spirit," says George. "Succeeding in the music world is all about believing in yourself. If you have a dream, you've just got to go for it." □



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A Decade of Commitment

This year marks the tenth anniversary of a partnership of caring. Ten years ago Colgate-Palmolive and the National Dental Association (NDA) joined together to promote oral hygiene to children who don't have access to adequate dental care. For a decade now, NDA dentists across the country have volunteered their time and energy to educate and screen children on Colgate-Palmolive's Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ vans. Plans are to continue this partnership well into the next millennium.

The National Dental Association

Established 86 years ago, the NDA is the largest and oldest organization of minority oral health professionals in the world. Representing over 6,000 African American dentists in the United States and abroad, the NDA has become a powerful voice for the underserved.

In 1989 the NDA joined forces with Colgate-Palmolive to improve the state of oral health among the underserved in this country. Together the NDA and Colgate-Palmolive set goals to increase educational and research opportunities for African American dental professionals as well as to implement an oral health program that would benefit inner-city children.

Some of the Goals of the NDA Are to:

- Establish the NDA as the vanguard of oral healthcare in communities of color by strengthening alliances with other health and civic organizations that advocate healthcare for all citizens.
- Perpetuate the tradition and upgrade the stature of African American dentists serving the minority community through continuing education, leadership training, community outreach initiatives and collaborative research.
- Increase the number of minorities in dentistry in areas of private practice, academia, administration, research, health policy and the armed services.



Top: Mr. Karl Dixon educates kids.

Above: Dr. Cynthia Hodge, President of the NDA

Today, 86 years after its inception, National Dental Association President Dr. Cynthia Hodge continues the tradition of bringing together dental care professionals from her organization and children from inner-city communities. "We've screened and educated thousands of children in the last couple of years," says Dr. Hodge who, in an attempt to link children in need with NDA dentists, often refers them to participating offices to further their dental care.

Joining Forces to Develop Programs that Give Everyone Something to Smile About

When two strong forces come together, it's amazing what can happen. This is the case for the union between the NDA and Colgate-Palmolive. By combining their energies, resources, technologies and personnel, they have created programs that brighten the lives of those they touch.

NDA Foundation Scholarship Programs for Future African American Dental Students

Since 1990, the National Dental Association Foundation (NDAF) and Colgate-Palmolive have awarded 889 scholarships totaling more than \$1,130,000 in grants to help further the education of promising African American students.

The Annie Elizabeth "Bessie" Delaney Scholarship Award of \$10,000 to recognize female pioneers in dentistry is just one of many scholarships awarded each year. It is named in honor of the late Bessie Delaney, the second Black woman licensed to practice dentistry in New York City. Joint scholarship efforts like this one help to increase the pool of Black dentists in the country and throughout the world.

Research and Training Programs

For the last ten years, Colgate and the National Dental Association Foundation have strengthened their commitment to research and training programs by awarding research grants to African American dental schools, Howard University and Meharry Medical College.

NDA Members Volunteer for the Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ Program

The Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ program was established in 1991 by Colgate-Palmolive. The goal of this



community outreach program is to improve the oral health of school-age inner-city children and help improve their overall self-esteem.

NDA dentists volunteer their time and services to provide dental screening, educational tips and referrals to children in the communities they serve. Colgate-Palmolive provides four specially equipped mobile vans to assist these dentists and others with

screenings. This year, as many as 5 million children will have benefited from this multifaceted program in key cities like New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Los Angeles and other inner-city markets.

NDA and America's Promise Initiative — Boys & Girls Clubs

In essence, the NDA and its dental associates who volunteer and give their time can serve as role models for all of us. For the second year in a row, the NDA and Colgate have demonstrated their commitment to volunteerism by partnering with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and America's Promise Initiative. Children in greatest need are identified by Boys & Girls Clubs in key markets and linked to NDA dentists to receive dental care. Judith J. Carter, Senior Vice President of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America says, "We are grateful to the NDA and Colgate for helping our children receive quality preventive dental services. As a result, they have healthier smiles."



"Our partnership with Colgate-Palmolive continues to be tremendously productive. Together we've made great inroads in providing quality oral healthcare to underserved communities."

-Dr. Cynthia Hodge, President NDA



From the top: Dr. Moses Snead examining a child • One of four Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ dental vans • Howard University dental students receiving NDAF Award scholarships • Dr. Marsha Butler, Colgate, and Dr. Roosevelt Brown, NDAF, present the Annie Elizabeth "Bessie" Delaney Scholarship Award to Dr. Kimberly Mays



For more information about the NDA or an NDA dentist in your community, call:

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Tooth Truth:



Facts About Your Child's Teeth

During a visit to the dentist's office, Anthony Couch and his wife, Daynise, of Nashville, Tenn., discuss proper dental care for their son, Anthony, with Dr. Cynthia E. Hodge, president of the National Dental Association. Proper nutrition and regular checkups ensure good dental health.

By Nicole Walker

Teething Time

A child with a bright, beautiful smile is usually a healthy child, but so much more rides on your child's oral health. As your child progresses through the toddler stage, childhood and adolescence, a glowing smile contributes to self-esteem. You pave the way to a healthy and happy future with your early efforts to care for your child's teeth and gums through nutrition, proper cleaning and regular dental checkups. The following guide offers information to help you make the right decisions—from the time your baby has his first tooth to the time he makes his first visit to the dentist's chair.

Teething, the process of new teeth pushing through the gums, usually begins between 6 and 10 months of age and continues off and on until about 24 months. Yet experts say this time frame can vary dramatically. A child's first tooth can spring up as early as 3 months or as late as 1 year. While most children will have a full set of 20 primary (baby) teeth by age 2, teething can last even until age 3.

Teething is characterized by itchy, sore and swollen gums, excessive drooling, irritability, crying spells and an urge to chew anything and everything. Some babies even have slight temperatures during this period. While teething can

be a trying time for parents and babies alike, experts say that if you prepare yourself with the proper knowledge and tools, you can take some of the stress out of teething time.

First and foremost, experts caution against rubbing any chemicals on your baby's gums to relieve pain, including popular home remedies such as brandy or whiskey, pastes made from crushed aspirin and water, even oral gels and drops. These substances, even in small amounts, can be toxic to your baby.

"One thing parents should never, ever do is apply [oral medications] to the gums," warns Dr. Cynthia E. Hodge, president of the National Dental Association. "It's not recom-



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TOOTH TRUTH *Continued*

mended by the Academy of Pediatric Dentistry."

But your baby doesn't have to suffer. Doctors say there are several safe, soothing ways to relieve your child's discomfort. The simplest is comforting your child with tender hugs and kisses and soft words. Rocking a fussy baby can be a surprisingly effective pain reliever. If your child allows you, firmly rub your baby's gums with your finger, first making sure it's clean.

Teething babies have a natural urge to chew everything within reach. Chewing plays an important role in tooth development because it soothes swollen gums and helps new teeth break through the gum's surface.

"Cold items with texture are safe for babies to chew," Dr. Hodge says. "Cold is soothing and texture relieves the itching and helps the teeth to erupt." Must-haves for teething babies are sterile, non-toxic teething rings that have been chilled (but not frozen) or special chew toys that are great for playing and gnawing. A clean, cold and damp washcloth also works well, as does a plastic-coated baby teaspoon. Some experts say it is okay to give your baby foods such as melba toast for munching, but as a rule, you should avoid feeding your child hard or frozen foods because small pieces can break off and pose a choking risk.

Caring For New Teeth And Gums

Although a child's first baby tooth usually appears between 6 and 12 months, medical experts advise parents to clean their babies' mouths from day one. Remove excess food and bacteria by wiping your infant's gums with a clean, wet cloth or gauze after each feeding. When your baby's teeth finally appear during this first year, brush them after mealtimes and at bedtime with a small, soft-bristled toothbrush and warm water only.

Also, never put your baby to bed with a bottle. A major oral health problem among infants is baby-bottle tooth decay, which occurs when an infant is constantly left for long periods—usually nap time and bedtime—with a bottle filled with formula, milk, juice or anything else containing sugar.

"If you put a baby to bed with those [liquids] in the mouth, it can be very, very destructive and damaging to the teeth," warns Dr. Hodge. "Those sweet



During an examination, Dr. Hodge checks the condition of Anthony's teeth and gums. If teeth are neglected, the result can trigger learning and emotional problems in children, which can lead to poor self-esteem. Dental experts say early and routine dental care is necessary to maintain a healthy smile for a lifetime, and prevent pain and discomfort associated with dental problems.

substances continue to coat the teeth and [decay] them. Infants should not even be allowed to fall asleep while nursing, because breast milk also contains a lot of sugar."

To prevent baby-bottle tooth decay, experts suggest putting water in the bedtime bottle or letting your baby suck a pacifier. Try to wean your child by age 1. It is also important to check with your dentist or pediatrician to make sure your child is getting enough fluoride—which fights cavities—in his or her diet. Water is the most common source, but if your community doesn't add fluoride

to its water supply, you should ask your doctor or dentist about fluoride supplements.

By age 3, children should be brushing their own teeth—with adult supervision. Since children can rinse and spit at this age, experts say it is safe for kids to brush with a pea-sized dot of fluoride toothpaste. Primary teeth also should be flossed daily. You can check if your child is brushing properly by using special disclosing tablets that are available at the drugstore or at the dentist's office. If plaque is present, the tablets, which are not swallowed, coat the teeth

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In the midst of early-morning preparations for the activities of the day, Chicago administrative assistant Dawn Benjamin and her husband, Roy, make sure that their 4-year-old daughter, Christine, brushes her teeth properly. Dental experts suggest that parents continue to do follow-up brushing on their children's teeth until they reach the ages of 6 to 8. The earlier a child sees a dentist, the better the chance of preventing dental problems.

TOOTH TRUTH *Continued*

with a pink color. Hodge suggests that parents continue to do follow-up brushing on their children's teeth until they reach ages 6 or 8.

Proper nutrition also is an integral part of dental health. A balanced diet that includes daily choices from the food pyramid—fruits, vegetables, meats and especially dairy products rich in valuable calcium, which builds strong teeth—ensures that your child's teeth and gums develop properly and remain healthy. Foods with sugar and starch are safer for teeth if they're eaten with meals and not as snacks. Check with your child's dentist about foods that promote dental health.

Baby's First Dental Visit

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that children go for their first dental visit by their first birthday, and every six months thereafter for checkups. Your child certainly should be examined by a dentist before the full set of primary teeth appears.

The earlier your child sees a dentist, the better the chances are of heading off dental problems such as tooth decay or gum disease.

During that first visit, your child's dentist should check teeth for decay and any signs of development problems. The dentist also should explain how to properly care for your child's teeth and what further steps you need to take if there are any problems. This first visit is your opportunity to ask any questions you may have about your child's oral health. "That first visit also familiarizes the child with the dental environment," Dr. Hodge says. "That's very important so the child doesn't grow up with any apprehension about going to the dentist." Experts suggest that parents take their child with them when they go for their dental checkup, which makes the child feel more comfortable when it's his turn in the chair.

Although your child's baby teeth eventually will fall out and make way for the permanent set, it is important not to neglect them. How you care for your child's primary teeth affects their

future development.

"If you lose primary teeth prematurely, you lose the space for the permanent teeth," Dr. Hodge says. "This results in crowding and, consequently, the child will have to have braces and other expensive interventions to correct it." She adds that decay occurs more rapidly and is more painful in children's teeth than in adults'.

Neglected teeth also can trigger learning and emotional problems in children. "Teeth play a major role in learning how to speak," Dr. Hodge says, "and children who lose their front teeth to decay often don't learn to enunciate properly. Then there is the social issue. A child with a lot of decayed or missing teeth may suffer from teasing, and that will impact negatively on a child's self-esteem."

These problems, however, don't have to become a part of your child's life. By instilling good dental habits in your son or daughter now, you help boost his or her self-esteem and help guarantee that your child's beautiful, bright smile will last a lifetime. □

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Leaving music for a more spiritual existence, Mase says he will follow God after completing the contractual obligations he has for his current album, *Double Up*.

The Amazing **Mase** Says He's Giving Up Rap For **GOD**

HE had been called the future of hip-hop, a 21-year-old Harlem-raised rapper with rhymes as smooth as his baby face, and a rare charm that made him as popular with boys in the 'hood as with Whites in the suburbs, as much appealing with teenage girls as their mamas. So when Mase recently made a surprise announcement that he would retire from rap to follow God, it sent shockwaves throughout the recording industry, threatening not only to have an impact on what is quickly becoming the world's most popular form of music, but also threatening to bring down a music mogul on top of the world.

In a press release titled "Mase takes leap of faith; retires from recording to walk with the Lord," his label Bad Boy Records confirmed the rumors that had been swirling around the hip-hop world

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MASE *Continued*

for weeks. "In a move that stunned the music world, Bad Boy rapper Mase has retired from recording and performing in order to pursue his faith," the release stated. "The artist, whose first album established him as a superstar, has refocused his priorities on doing God's work."

Mase reportedly will drop everything that has to do with music, including the work he started on his own record label. He has hinted that he might do charity work involving children, go back to college (he was studying sociology at the State University of New York on a basketball scholarship before dropping out to pursue a rapping career) and possibly even pursue an acting career.

But no one knows for sure what Mase will do. In a written statement, Mase said that he is "grateful for all the blessings bestowed on me that were a result of my music career. Now it's time for me to serve God in His way. The Lord sends you messages when He's ready and not necessarily when we are."

Bad Boy Vice President/General Manager Jeff Burroughs followed up the press release by reiterating the record company's support for Mase. "We wholeheartedly support Mase's decision in this matter," he said. "It's a personal decision that everyone

Performing with Bad Boy Entertainment CEO Sean (Puffy) Combs (above, r.), Mase quickly gained a large following and many awards, including one given to him (below) by BMG Records for selling 1 million copies of the album *No Way Out*, a project he worked on with Combs and several other artists. His first album, *Harlem World*, debuted at No. 1 and went on to sell more than 3 million copies last year. "Now it's time for me to serve God in His way," Mase says. "The Lord sends you messages when He's ready and not necessarily when we are [ready]."

was recorded before he made the decision to step away from rap music. Already the first single on the album, "Get Ready," has been a hit. Mase remains signed to the label and, according to the record company, will continue to promote the album, even though he has reportedly said he will not do any more concerts or videos.

Mase, whose real name is Mason



at the label respects to the utmost. Our relationship with Mase has evolved to a higher level—one that is sure to be beneficial to all involved."

But some music insiders wonder how Bad Boy will turn the devastation of the apparent departure of its top artist into a positive. The rapper's apparent retirement comes on the heels of Bad Boy Entertainment CEO Sean (Puffy) Combs' recent arrest on assault charges and what some would consider lackluster sales from many of Bad Boy's other artists.

Nevertheless, in June, Bad Boy went forward with its plans to release Mase's highly anticipated new album, *Double Up*, which



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After selecting **Earvin (Magic) Johnson** as his agent, Mase appeared with the NBA legend at this year's Soul Train Music Awards. In addition to Mase, Johnson manages several athletes and entertainers. At right, Mase strikes a pose at the 1999 Nickelodeon Kids Choice Awards. He has said that he wants to work more with children in the future.

MASE *Continued*

Betha, met Combs at a music convention in Atlanta in 1996. Soon afterward, Puffy signed him to a multialbum deal. Since then, he has become one of the top rappers in the country, rapping about money, women and partying. His first album, *Harlem World*, debuted at No. 1 and went on to sell more than 3 million copies last year. But even before his solo album was released, hip-hop fans had come to know his laid-back voice as a result of his many riffs on songs by Puff Daddy and other superstar artists like Mariah Carey and Brandy.

While Mase's announcement comes as a shock to rap fans, it's nothing new. The struggle between the secular and sacred has involved musicians from Al Green to Marvin Gaye to Little Richard. Most recently, it was hip-hop soul king R. Kelly who made an announcement that he had been saved. "I used to be flying in sin—now I'm flying in Jesus," Kelly told fans at a Chicago concert in 1997, leaving many to wonder if the man who earned three consecutive multi-million-selling albums with songs like "Sex Me," "Your Body's Calling," "Bump 'N' Grind," and "You Remind Me of Something," which compared women to a Jeep, was going to trade in his signature raunch for religion.

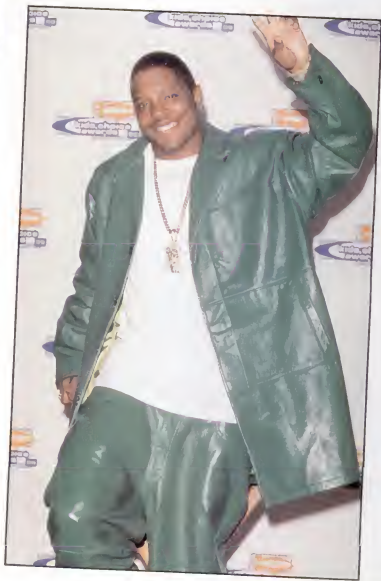
But Kelly seemed to answer that question recently with the release of his latest CD, entitled *R*. Some would argue that Kelly has become raunchier. His concert tour, which was canceled in May after only a few shows, was criticized for being too sexually explicit. In the show, Kelly constant-

ly grabbed his crotch, used profanity and simulated sex acts with women who were apparently brought up to the stage from the crowd.

Meanwhile, Mase has said that no one particular incident prompted his decision, only that rapping just wasn't "in my heart." Some close to the rapper wonder how much Brandy, or Tina and Tamera Mowry (also close friends of Mase) had on influencing his decision to walk away from hip-hop. "When you have someone close to you who has a strong religious foundation, it definitely has an influence on you," according to one person who is familiar with the situation.

But others wonder if Puffy's alleged heavy-handed control and the pressure of being Bad Boy's top artist was too much for Mase. Expectations have been high for him after the death of Christopher (The Notorious B.I.G.) Wallace, once the breadwinner of the Bad Boy family. From the outside, it seemed like Mase thrived on the new attention, eventually surpassing even the most lofty expectations, helping propel Puffy's record company to higher ground and helping to play a large role in the crossover success of rap music. Last year, hip-hop surpassed country music in popularity for the first time, and it was estimated that Whites buy about 60 percent of all rap albums.

And while Mase has said in the past that he never wanted to be a 30-year-old rapper, many wonder if he exited music too soon. In the prime of his career, Mase, however, says he has no second thoughts about his new future—or regrets about his past. □



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SINGLE

And Satisfied

Unmarrieds find fulfillment with or without someone special


By Kelly Starling

WHEN Chicagoan Braunda Ridley turned 25, people around her began to panic. It was as if she suddenly mutated from a happy single into a pitiful spinster. Everyone had a solution. Some folks tried to fix her up. Other good intentions came out as harsh judgments—"What's wrong with you?" "You go to that big church and you still can't find anyone?" "You're going to have a baby with a handicap if you wait until you're old before giving birth."

Ridley says even strangers joined the action. If they spotted her eating alone, they asked, "Do you want some company?" Men tried to pick her up. Others raised their brows.

Many singles such as Ridley get badgered by relatives, friends and well-wishers who refuse to accept that they choose to be alone. But a growing number of Black professionals are doing just that. They're exploring careers, indulging in the joys of travel, rediscovering pastimes and kindling new passions. Most say they want to be married someday, but they feel content being single until they meet the right person.

"I'm not married because I'm not ready," says Ridley, a 28-year-old kindergarten teacher's assistant and vice president of the single-adult ministry at Trinity United Church of



Enjoying the single life, trade funds administrator and former Atlanta Falcons cheerleader Michele Crawford (above) celebrates the freedom of her lifestyle. Attorney Marvin Morris (right), who also is not married, has a glass of wine at Cafe Nema in Washington, D.C., while he catches up on his work.





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First Place - \$8,000, Second Place - \$6,000 and Third Place - \$4,000. The artist's signature confirms that he/she understands all the rules and regulations established above. Please attach to the back of the artwork
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Three winners will receive cash prizes and national exposure for their unpublished, two-dimensional artwork using the likeness of the Chrysler 300M and/or its logo. Finalists' artwork will be included in a collector's year 2000 wall calendar. The grand prize winner's work will be featured on the calendar's cover. Enter now!



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Illinois engineer Kellie Porter (above) finds fulfillment by pursuing pastimes such as playing the flute, kick-boxing, cooking and hanging out with friends. Reading in his Chicago condominium, **Bob Warren** (below), who is divorced, relishes the quiet time that comes with being a bachelor.

SINGLE AND SATISFIED *Continued*

Christ in Chicago. "God is preparing that person. While I don't plan to be single forever, I am satisfied now."

Single and satisfied. For some people, those words go together about as well as peanut butter and mayonnaise. Even in the '90s, many people equate being a couple with being happy. Experts say the numbers show a different story: According to the U.S. Bureau of Census, in 1998 more than 5 million African-American men and women—age 15 and older—had never been married. In 1960, about 2 million people passed on jumping the broom. Even without counting divorces, we have twice as many single folks today.

"The number of singles has increased dramatically over the years," says Dr. Larry E. Davis, author of *Black and Single: Meeting and Choosing a Partner Who is Right For You*. "Some of the growth has to do with demographics. Some people are focusing more on their careers. Some people just aren't getting married."

A major reason for the rise in singles is that more people are seeking personal fulfillment, experts say. Unlike past generations when couples started together at the bottom, many '90s professionals want to bring more to the marriage than love. They may acquire degrees, make some investments, purchase a first home—all before getting hitched. If they meet someone to share it with, they're thrilled. But if not, some are content to live alone.

Attorney Marvin Morris says he's ready to be married, but he wants to make the right choice.

"The simple answer [why I'm still single] is I haven't met her," says the 30-year-old director of policy and operations for the D.C. office of budget and planning. "I went straight from undergrad into a job that required me to work long hours. Then I

went to law school. I started a company in South Africa. That took up a lot of time."

Experts say many African-Americans feel comfortable being single because there are simply more unmarried people around. For every single person who feels pressured to get married, there's another one who feels accepted.

"Blacks perceive less of a liability for being single than Whites," says Dr. Davis. "Sixty percent of Whites are married while 60 percent of Blacks are single. Being single for Whites is more of an unusual status. If I'm single and Black, I have lots of company."

Morris agrees that he feels little pressure to rush into marriage, even though his sister and some of his close friends have tied the knot. Morris says he has just as many happily single friends. He thinks friendship is the best way to meet a good mate. "Everything starts with friendship," he says. "After you get to know them, you know if they're right for you."

Until then, Morris goes about the business of life. Along with working for the District of Columbia, the lawyer runs his own company, which takes him to exciting places such as London and South Africa. He takes leisure trips, visiting friends from New York to Miami. When he's in D.C., Morris plays golf, eats out at favorite restaurants, chills with friends in popular lounges and salsa bars.

Morris laughs when asked if his friends attempt to play matchmaker. He says people try to hook him up all the time. He appreciates their efforts, but he says he's on God's clock.

"I do want to be married," he says. "But generally speaking, I'm a very patient person. I don't set timetables for things, especially if it deals with my emotions. If it takes 20 years from now, it was intended to take 20 years. But I don't think it will."

Relationship experts say that sit-back-and-enjoy-the-blessings mentality is common among today's singles. They follow a philosophy of contented waiting.

"More than 90 percent of eligible African-Americans aspire to marry," says Dr. Davis, professor of social work and



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psychology at Washington University in St. Louis. "It's not that they've abandoned the value of marriage. But they are taking longer to do it—perhaps due to expectations of what it should be or a lack of desirable prospects."

Black women, he says, have been hit hard by gender imbalances between professional African-American men and women around the country. "Black men have lost tremendously in employment and economic sectors," he says. "Some women say, 'I would get married if I could find a guy. But I can't find a guy who makes [as much money] as much as I do.'"

Some Sisters say being unmarried, however, is about more than a man crunch. Their decision to stay single comes from their desire to find a mate with whom they feel a connection. Black men say the same.

"It's hard to really get to know someone," says Morris, who stays active in D.C.'s social scene. "A lot of people have been on the scene so long that they've established certain ways of relating to people. It's like a game to the extent that you're doing what everyone else does and going where everyone else goes and not getting close to anyone."

Some single Brothers say too many Sisters make themselves available for just a good time. They have no expectations beyond that night, so why should men commit?

"Some guys say, 'Why should I get married when I can date all these people and have fun?'" says Dr. Davis. "It's not a fear of commitment but a pull toward alternatives. The reason they hang out there so long is that they can—and they're enjoying it."

Michele Crawford of Atlanta says she has met the players, but she's also met more than a few good men. Most of her relationships have ended because of problems with timing or level of commitment, she says.

"I've met a mixture of men from A-Z," says the trade funds administrator for Georgia Pacific, a paper and building products firm. "But I haven't met the individual where we're both on the same page. I won't settle for less."

The thirtysomething former Atlanta Falcons cheerleader admits that she expected to be married by now. In her mid-20s, she says being single didn't bother her because she was so busy cheering and meeting so many people. In recent years, she's felt more pressure to be coupled. But that discomfort is short-lived.

Crawford enjoys dating, but she doesn't base her happiness on having a man. She also finds pleasure eating out with friends, shopping and going to the movies with buddies or alone. Every year, she travels with friends to different cities—London, Maui, Puerto Rico and Toronto.

"I was speaking with my friend who just recently got married, and she said it was definitely worth waiting for," says Crawford. "Today, people don't want to settle for less. They want what's best for them."

In her book, *Loving Me: A Sisterfriend's Guide to Being*

Single and Happy, author Claudette Sims writes that more women are holding out for quality mates. Tired of abuse, disrespect and infidelity, they are choosing to be alone. The same can be said of men who tell their own horror stories of meeting gold diggers and SWDs (Sisters With Drama). Today's singles are more exacting in their search for a companion. But Dr. Davis cautions people against waiting for that flawless mate. Singles need to know what they're looking for, he says, so good people don't slip by.

"In a generation that believes all things are possible, we have these terms like 'settle,'" he says. "It makes us stay out there longer. Sometimes, I think it's unrealistic. Sometimes it comes from a fear of commitment more than the idea that we can do better."

Van Ewing II admits the idea of lifetime commitment can be a little chilling. A small part of the bachelor worries about opening his heart and getting hurt. But Ewing says he'd take the leap without hesitation if the right woman showed up. When he dates, he makes sure the woman is as professionally driven as he is. The main reason he's single is that he has so much to accomplish.

"I am fine being single because I am so concentrated on my career," says the 29-year-old executive business analyst for Texaco. "Right now, that's what motivates me. You have to truly understand yourself."

Like Ewing, many singles celebrate their freedom. Without a mate's needs to consider, they say they're better able to focus on personal goals. Ewing recently received his MBA from Howard University. He enjoys checking out stocks each night at his computer. He likes playing golf and shooting hoops. Business takes him all over the world.

"Sometimes, I think it would be nice to have someone and a family," says Ewing who lives in White Plains, N.Y. "But you see so many people get married and divorced. When you think about things like that, I say, 'I'm glad I'm single and can make sure I choose the right person.'"

Bob Warren, 35, knows what he means. After being married for nearly three years, Warren and his wife divorced. He's been single for about four years.

"Coming out of a marriage, the first rule is you need to be by yourself," says the senior partner and owner of a technology consulting firm. "You want to heal yourself before you meet someone else. No one else can make you happy."

Warren says he pressured himself into his first marriage. At 29, he was the youngest corporate business manager in the history of his former company. He felt obliged to fit in.

"Everyone else was married or older, so I just deemed that it was time," he says. "That is one of the critical mistakes we can make, because it has to be God's time and not our time."

This time around, he's thrown away his clock, remember-



Self-improvement is a major focus of singles like Georgian Michele Crawford (above) who works out at Atlanta's Peachtree Center Athletic Club.

ing lessons gleaned from his youth: Don't choose someone until you see her in times of anger as well as joy. Work on forgiveness. Make sure you like the person and not just the sex. Love and pray together.

"You know what you're looking for the second time around," he says. "Your communication gets better. You know you can be faithful. You're looking for the commitment of a lifetime."

Many singles say they're spending more time dating, becoming friends before making commitments. Warren applauds the fact that more Black men and women are waiting before saying, "I do."

"Being single and satisfied helps you stay focused," says Warren, the father of a young daughter. "The objective is to be married, that's what God put us here for. But the difference is you're not rushing into anything. You're just sitting and patiently waiting."

Like Warren, Kellie Porter says she's counting on divine providence to reveal her husband. But in the meantime, she dates and celebrates her achievements as a single woman.

"Being single gives me the knowledge that I can take care of myself,"

says the 25-year-old process automation engineer for G.E. Capital IT Solutions. "I don't have to depend on other people. I can do well alone."

Porter stays active. She took up kickboxing five months ago. She enjoys cooking, playing tennis and practicing the flute. The fun-loving young woman also hangs out regularly with friends, taking in comedy sets and jamming the night away in local clubs.

She says she sweeps away infrequent pangs of loneliness with prayer.

"I'm rarely alone," she says. "But that I don't mean I always have someone around me, but I always feel God's presence in my life. There are times when I might tune that out, but all I need to do is meditate to get that feeling back."

Dr. Davis says during the down-time singles can enhance their desirability by taking classes, traveling, developing themselves spiritually.

"It's a good time to become more of an interesting person," he says.

Braunda Ridley says singles struggling to find satisfaction can find good company among one another. About 200 people belong to Trinity's single-adult ministry. Along with communing in Christ, they share fun activities such

as skating and bowling.

"People think being single will kill you and being married will heal you," says Ridley. "But you need to be happy before you get married. Instead of thinking all the time about going out with a guy, I've learned to fellowship with my friends."

Along with finding companionship through singles groups, book clubs and charities, singles also gain confidence by doing things alone, experts say. Most happily unmarriages say they're comfortable dining, attending social functions and even traveling solo.

Porter says to be satisfied, hopeful singles must view their time alone as a time of preparation—both for their future mate and themselves.

"Everyone has a lot of positives we take for granted," she says. "We might be good listeners or people who can make everyone laugh. We can't take that for granted. We should thank God and strengthen our esteem so that we are not looking for someone else to establish us as a person. Be right with ourselves."

"When we do that," she says, "we'll be ready for whatever man or woman God reveals." □



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By Lynn Norment

AT TIMES it seems that Wynton Marsalis is ubiquitous. Go into any music store and you can find a number of his 40 recordings. Turn on the television, and you may catch one of his specials on PBS or watch an interview on a news or entertainment program. On radio, you can enjoy his music on your local jazz station, or perhaps catch his special on National Public Radio. Computer savvy individuals can sign on to a Net interview with the popular music man. In numerous and varied publications across the country, there are photographs of him lecturing, performing, talking to kids.

While his public persona appears to be everywhere, the 37-year-old bachelor makes an effort to keep his personal life out of the limelight.

"I never really talk about my personal life," says Marsalis, leaning back in a green upholstered chair in the library of his New York condo. "I know



Wynton Marsalis:

it's interesting to read about peoples' personal lives because I wonder about that myself when I read about people. When your personal life is simple, it's easy to talk about it. When it's complicated, it's better to be quiet.

"Yes, my life is complicated. It's better for me to be quiet, to be silent. Largely, I am silent." He smiles.

Perhaps contributing to his "complicated life" is the fact he is an in-demand bachelor but also a proud father of three sons. Marsalis' two older sons live in the New York area and show an interest in music. Jasper, his 3-year-old son by actress Victoria Rowell, likely will follow.

In his private environment, this music maestro exudes gentility and charm that harks back to his Southern upbringing, but a worldly edge reflects 20 years in New York City and world travel. Subtle sensuality is reflected in his smile, his eyes, his expressions, his body language. No doubt women find him intriguing and appealing. In East Coast creative circles and among the Hollywood set, Marsalis is known to be quite a ladies' man. Yet he seldom is photographed with dates at perfor-



mances and other glittery events.

The private Wynton Marsalis, like the public musicmaster, is intense, straightforward, never at a loss for words. Many compare his diverse and enormous output to that of the legendary Duke Ellington. He shrugs it off. "I have tremendous respect for him and what he represented," Marsalis says. "Duke wrote 1500 songs and recorded 800 albums . . . I mean, I loved him [he pauses], and he loved women. That's one thing you can say about Duke. And women loved him."

When asked if that statement can be made concerning himself, Marsalis says: "I don't know. I love women. I don't know if they love me."

Since he emerged onto the jazz scene in 1982, Marsalis has become a well-loved and vocal force in the music world. He has distinguished himself as





one of music's most talented and prolific artists. This year alone he will release nine CDs, in addition to a six-CD box set—an unprecedented creative output. He is the only jazz musician to be awarded the coveted Pulitzer Prize, and he has won eight Grammy Awards. Moreover, he has assumed the mission of taking the art form to the youthful masses and elevating jazz to new levels of awareness and appreciation.

Wynton's large Upper West Side apartment is adjacent to his beloved Lincoln Center, where he is artistic director of the jazz program. In his library, Marsalis seems to be relaxed, yet you are aware that many thoughts are crisscrossing his fertile mind. As always, he is tastefully dressed, this day in an earthy tan sweater and matching slacks. He is warm and friendly, yet you feel that at least part of him is else-

The Private Man Behind The Music

Wynton Marsalis, artistic director of Jazz at Lincoln Center, is familiar to fans around the world. Yet, the famed trumpeter is very private when it comes to his personal life. At left, he sits in the library of his Manhattan condo. Below, he listens to young musicians, and (at right) he and his father, pianist Ellis Marsalis, share a night out with two of Wynton's sons, Wynton and Simeon.





With the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, Marsalis acknowledges response of the audience after performing his Pulitzer Prize-winning composition, *Blood On The Fields*, accompanied by vocalists Cassandra Wilson and Jon Hendricks (left, front). He generously praises the talent of fellow musicians, including saxophonists Wessell Anderson, Walter Blanding and Victor Goines; trombonist Wycliffe Gordon; drummer Herlin Riley; pianist Eric Reed; and bassists Reginald Veal and Ben Wolfe. Marsalis, an advocate of music education for young people, appears on the children's television show *Sesame Street* (below, left).



WYNTON MARSALIS *Continued*

where, perhaps on that melody he awoke with earlier. He says music constantly "comes to me," that he awakens each day energized with music on his mind.

The built-in wooden shelves in the library are crowded with books on diverse subjects. There is a keyboard and other musical elements, as well as plenty of mementos and awards. A telescope stands near the windows that offer an expansive view of the Hudson River and New Jersey. Down the hall in the living room sits a grand piano; at the other end is his sons' bedroom with a private bath. Throughout are works of art, some with musical themes. There are portraits of Duke Ellington and Frederick Douglass. A Romare Bearden collage graces a wall in the living room, while Haitian art is among the accents in the dining room.

He says he and his sons often have "jam sessions" in the apartment (Wynton, 11, plays the piano; Simeon, 9, the clarinet), and that he misses them when he's on the road. "My kids don't live with me, so I'm not like the fathers who are there all the time," he says. "Of course, I love my kids and I'm always taking them to stuff, teaching them how to play ball. I play with them. I do not try to be hard on them or to force them into anything. I just try to keep exposing them, like taking them to the museum. They don't always want to go. I take them to concerts. I take them on tours just to see cathedrals. But I want them to play ball, too, and to be with their friends.

"Even though I don't like rap music, I don't tell them not

to listen to it. My daddy didn't tell me not to listen to any type of music. He was like, 'Man, play in the funk band. You make your own choices.' And I don't try to keep any of that from them, not the profanity, the cussing . . . I don't try to treat them anticeptically. I don't want them to have a watered-down experience . . . You make a mistake; that's what happens. You pay for it. I want them to have spirit and that fire."

These qualities certainly characterize Marsalis, and they also are traits he likes in women. Marsalis reveals that he prefers to keep company with women who are intelligent and spirited. "I like women with a lot of fire and who are real intelligent and soulful," he explains. "Soulful is just somebody who makes you feel good. Soulful. They heal you. They want to give you something that's going to make you better. They'll be honest with you. Tell you s--- you don't feel like hearing. And they are funny too. I like bullsh---g a lot. Musicians in general are real funny. The most startling example of that was Miles [Davis]. Miles and I didn't get along. He was very funny. He had a reputation for being just mean. He was mean, but he was funny, too. And when you're around jazz musicians, you're laughing most of the time. They're always saying something funny . . . Even if it's that kind of dry humor or sarcastic wit. I like laughing."

Asked if there are physical traits he prefers in women, he says, simply, no. "There are so many beautiful women, so many different standards of beauty. And there are so many different ways to be beautiful," he elaborates. "Sometimes people just have that glow with them, that spiritual glow. And that real life energy. The only thing I don't like is a real dark kind of negative energy. The negative-energy people have an interesting quality, too. A lot of times men use that type of negative energy to make you come under their power. I don't mean in any kind of sexual way. I mean, like negative energy, by always putting somebody down, making them want to try to please you. A lot of people who are bosses have that type of quality. I don't really respect that . . . negative vortex."

"But I like a woman who is intelligent. Real independent. Single-minded. My mama is like that—real, real intelligent, and fiery. I like that soul, I like the intelligence, that independence, that competence. I like that humor."

Marsalis says he has no immediate plans for matrimony, though he regrets he did not marry early in his career. "That sounds crazy. I wouldn't have had a chance to do a lot of what I did do," he adds. "You never know how your life is going to fall. But I think it's much easier on people who are married. You have to struggle a certain kind of way to nurture your

her pride
her spirit
her dreams
her soul

The 1999 Soul Train Lady of Soul Awards

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At home, Marsalis demonstrates his artistry with a framed poster of the legendary Duke Ellington in the background. Marsalis says he would love to see more people, especially African-Americans, integrating jazz into every aspect of their lives.

WYNTON MARSALIS *Continued*

relationship, but you've got somebody who is in your corner all the time . . . Sometimes I feel real, real lonely, even though I always have people around me. Since my kids have been born, I don't really feel as lonely."

No doubt, a woman would have to be exceptional to hold Marsalis' attention. And she would have to understand that his music is his life, his first love. This year alone he will release 15 recordings, eight in a series titled "Swinging Into The 21st." The set will span the music of Thelonious Monk and Jelly Roll Morton (two new "standards collections"), classical, big-band works, ballets, music composed for TV and movie projects, and the *Marcia Suite*, which Marsalis wrote for the annual Marcia Jazz Festival in France. Every August he visits the small hamlet, his "second home," to perform and teach master classes. The recordings draw inspiration from around the world—the U.S., France, China, Brazil, Cuba—and from a broad spectrum of musical genres, including blues, tango and bossa nova. Last spring, Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra released a tribute to Duke Ellington. In December he will release a six-CD set of live performances at New York's Village Vanguard.

"The 20th century was a century of communication," he says. "You had the tools of communication—the telephone, radio, TV, and finally the computer, the greatest, most powerful tool of communication we've seen so far. I think the issue in the 21st century is going to be integration . . . Music is an ultimate form of communication because it's so abstract. It also stretches across cultural boundaries."

In the next millennium, more music genres will be integrated, he says, recalling how much he enjoyed jamming with local musicians at a party in Brazil. Another example of this "integration" is the blues, which he calls the universal coefficient. "If you go through the blues, you can find a little something in the roots of all people," he says. The blues, he adds, is the common thread that runs through all of his music.

The second of six sons born to Ellis and Dolores Marsalis, Wynton has been exposed to music all of his life. His father is an accomplished pianist. Three of his brothers also are in the music business: saxophonist Branford, trombonist Delfeayo (who has produced several of Wynton's recordings) and drummer Jason (who plays with pianist Marcus Roberts). Wynton began studying the trumpet seriously at age 12, and in high school, he performed with jazz, funk and marching bands, and with classical orchestras. In 1980, after moving to

New York to attend the prestigious Juilliard School, he joined Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and signed with Columbia Records. Over the years, he has sold almost 8 million records worldwide. That is quite a feat for a jazz artist.

While his days are filled with meetings, rehearsals and lectures, he devotes late-night hours to his writing. "But it's not really work. The creative process, it possesses you," he explains. "You're compelled to do it. It's almost like being addicted to something. It comes to you. I wake up in the morning and I have a lot of energy. I get ideas and stuff I guess when I'm sleeping."

This year, Marsalis says he will work exceptionally hard. "I want to give thanks to God for giving me the opportunity to have a voice and be able to express it; I'm fortunate to be out there and have people come to hear me play and like my music. I want to demonstrate my gratitude by really trying to deal with music on a very serious level."

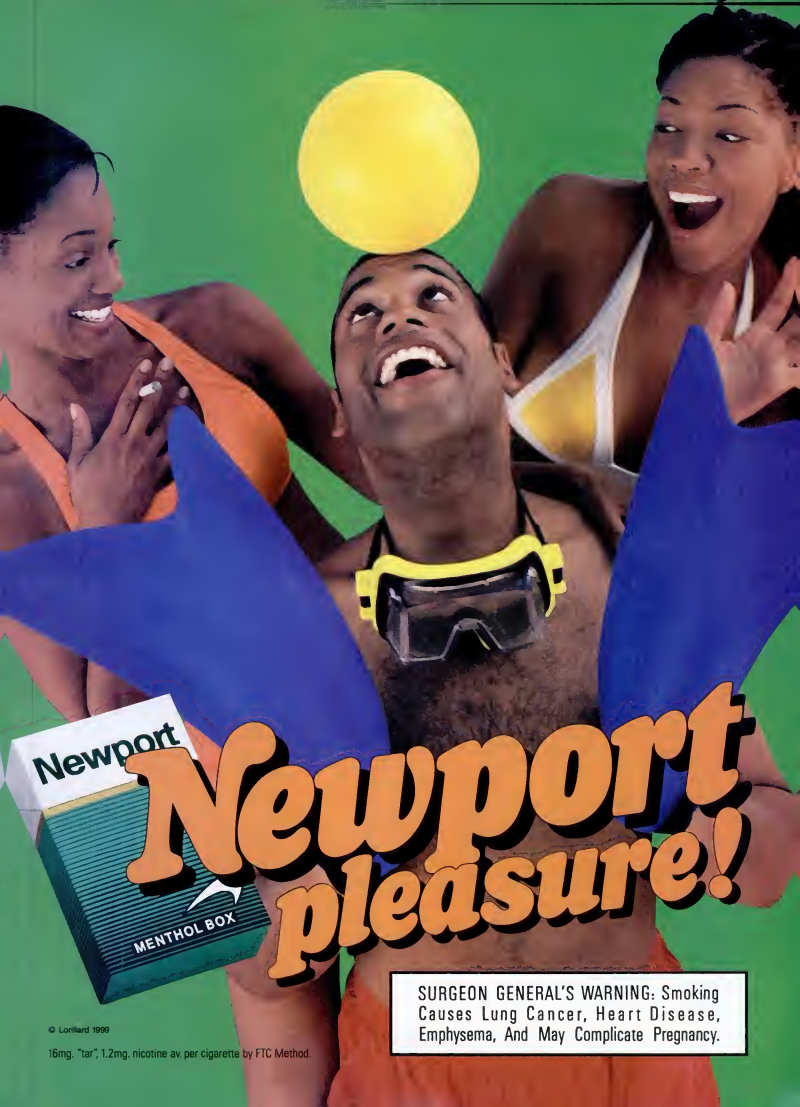
Marsalis is delighted when couples tell him that their child was "conceived" or "born" with his music as a backdrop, and he wants jazz to become more integral to the lives and fiber of all people, but especially to African-Americans. "We have a great legacy in music, which really needs to be understood and developed, and our ignorance of our own history, our own music, really hurts us," he says. "The Black American's rejection of jazz is really an indication of our rejection of ourselves. And that is also a reflection of the way we have chosen to express ourselves in this time."

Wynton is confident that well into the next century, jazz will continue to thrive. "Now it's international music," he explains. "It came from Black Americans. That was our gift to the world. Now this gift has been seized by the world . . . Our music is not a fad, and our music also has a relationship to African music and to European music, in the inception of it." Marsalis emphasizes the importance of exposing young people to jazz. "Music education is a great thing for your kids. It's worth the sacrifice," he says to parents.

For the most part Marsalis is cooled out and mellow, but over the years he has been riled, and he also has stepped on some toes himself. He says during early interviews he would be hot and fiery, and many times his words got more attention than his music. He recalls the time Miles Davis referred to him as "the police," referring to his criticism of the way jazz was played. "I don't mind a battle or a fight," he acknowledges. "That lets you know you're alive. There's nothing wrong with a good battle." He explains that sometimes "battles" progress out of the verbal arena. "I'm getting a little too old for that [physical confrontations] now," he confesses, "but even when I was growing up, I've never been averse to that. Yes, I'm hot-headed. I'm older and much calmer now."

He acknowledges that some things still anger him. "I see the potential of all our kids just going down the drain," he says, referring to the music and other cultural arts today's youth prefer. What makes him happy is doing simple things to show that he is glad to be alive. "It could just be flirting with somebody at the bus stop," he explains. "I was at the bus stop the other day, about to cross the street. A bus pulled up next to the curb, so I was real close in the face of this woman. She had a little girl sitting next to her. We were so close it was kind of uncomfortable. She looked at me and I said, 'Is that your daughter?' She said, 'Do I look old enough to have a daughter like that?' I said, 'No, but you're cute enough.' She just laughed. She was smiling as the bus pulled off."

Both the private and public sides of Wynton Marsalis leave a lot of people smiling and feeling good. After all, he is a jazz musician and, like he says, they do like to laugh. □



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Halle Berry

On How She Found
Dorothy
Dandridge's
Spirit—And
Finally
Healed
Her Own

A full-page photograph of Halle Berry. She is shown in two poses. On the left, she is smiling and looking towards the camera. On the right, she is looking slightly away from the camera with a more serious expression. She is wearing a strapless, metallic, shimmering gown with a large bow at the bust. She is also wearing a necklace with black and white beads and a large black teardrop pendant. Her hair is styled in a short, wavy bob.

In HBO special, *Introducing Dorothy Dandridge*, Halle Berry (r) is transformed into the legendary but tragic beauty and plays the much-coveted role of the first Black woman to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actress. On the opposite page, Berry is shown in one of Dandridge's personal gowns, a gown that, Halle believes, was apparently linked to some "supernatural" occurrences in her home while the dress was in her possession.

I'm not sure I want to talk about this publicly," Halle Berry says warily. "I don't want people to think I'm a quack." The "this" is a series of eerie incidents Halle swears occurred while she was shooting *Introducing Dorothy Dandridge*, the HBO movie airing this month in which she stars as the legendary beauty who made history as the first Black woman to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actress.

They started when Halle brought home an original Dorothy Dandridge gown, the one she wore on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. Dandridge's longtime manager, Earl Mills, gave it to Halle, along with the rights to the book he wrote about the star, a book on which Halle based the movie.

When she finally got up the nerve to try the gown on, the way it fit her—perfectly, like a glove—was eerie, Halle says, but she took it as a sign that she should be starring in the movie she'd spent the last five years of her life trying in vain to convince the major Hollywood studios to support. "It felt like validation," she says of the way Dandridge's gown hugged every her curve. "I thought, 'If the dress fits, wear it.'"

But then all kinds of weird stuff started happening. She'd be watching television and the lights would start flickering on and off. Or she'd come home and find her patio door wide open, even though—after the first time it happened—she'd made it a point not only to lock the door but to turn on the security system before she left for the set.

Even stranger were the dragging noises her housekeeper insisted came from Halle's bedroom whenever Halle went out. "Every time she heard them," she says, "she'd find the chair in front of my vanity pulled out." As if someone had been sitting in it? Halle shrugs her shoulders. "All I can tell you is she'd push the chair back in, and the next time I'd go out, it would be pulled out again."

As weird as those incidents were, they are not what convinced Halle she had to return the dress. That would be the night she says she saw something, to use her word, "supernatural," something for which, even now, she has no explanation.

"I was very protective of the gown and so I kept it in the den, covered in plastic," says Halle who, months after the incident, recounts it with a combination of wonderment and disbelief. "One day I heard this crackling noise, and I thought it was water boiling on the stove." The problem, says Halle, was the sound was coming from the den. "When I looked in, I saw this tiny little baby doll dress floating in front of Dorothy's gown," she says. "It freaked me

► *Dandridge Dress That Seemed Haunted Helped Halle Understand Her Spirit*



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HALLE BERRY *Continued*

out so much I just ran up to my bedroom and curled up in a ball. I was so hysterical I ended up calling Geri [Branton, Dandridge's closet friend]. I asked her if she'd ever had anything like that happen to her. She said, 'Honey, I talk to Dottie all the time, and if she is at your house, she means you no harm.' I thought about it all night and decided that I was supposed to use the dress for inspiration, but the time had come to give it back."

Not that letting it go was easy. Even now, when Halle talks about returning the gown, her eyes unexpectedly well with tears. "In my mind, when the gown left, Dorothy left with it," she says. "And I wanted so much to hold on to a piece of her because, this may be my ego or my fantasy, but I believe Dorothy passed the ball to me. And I say that with such strong feelings of responsibility and humility. She blazed a trail for Black actresses and fought so hard to widen horizons for our people. That's how I approach my career. I want to fight as hard as she did."

What Halle wants more than anything, however, is to do the one thing Dandridge, for all her beauty and talent, was unable to: She wants to be at peace with herself, her life, her choices. "In my own life, I am determined to change the ending," she says, referring to Dandridge's tragic death in 1965, at the age of 42, from a drug overdose that many, including Halle, believe was not accidental.

No small part of the reason Halle believes Dandridge committed suicide is because she understands the kind of pain that could drive a person to contemplate it. "I know how a person can feel so alone that she just wants to go to sleep because I have been there," she says, referring to the time, shortly after her divorce from baseball star David Justice, when she considered taking her own life. "I thank God I had

In Berry's portrayal of Dandridge, she is joined in a scene by (l. to r.) Obba Babatundé, who plays Dandridge's first husband, Harold Nicholas, Tamara Taylor and Darrian C. Ford. During production, Berry (below) meets with Geraldine (Geri) Branton, who was Dandridge's best friend.



Going crazy?





In the movie, the performing Daudridge Sisters include (l. to r.) Sharon Brown as Etta Jones, Berry and Cynda Williams as Vivian Daudridge. Berry (far left) promotes the movie *Carmen Jones* and (left) recreates the image of the movie's glamorous star, who starred opposite entertainer Harry Belafonte in 1954.

HALLE BERRY *Continued*

an angel that made me aware that it wasn't the end of my road; that I had a greater contribution to make. I can honestly say I'll never visit that place again. That is a pact I made with God. My relationship with Him is the No. 1 priority in my life. Not a day goes by that I don't get down on my knees and say, "Thank you, Lord, for waking me up and please let me rest easy tonight."

Though she saw a therapist after the divorce, for Halle, the real healing didn't begin until, as she puts it, "I learned to live with myself by myself." It was a process of deep, often painful, self-evaluation. "I had to face all the demons I've been trying to push under a rug my whole life," she says softly. "And in my darkest hour, I realized that I couldn't run from them anymore. The time had come for me to face them, embrace them, and get on with the business of living my life. It was the hardest thing I've ever had to do."

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In the HBO production, Klaus Brandauer plays director Otto Preminger, director of the movie *Carmen Jones*. In real life, Dandridge and Preminger became romantically involved during the filming, and the relationship, close friends say, progressed to the point of talk about marriage. But the relationship ended abruptly and represented another of Dandridge's bitter, unfulfilling romances.

HALLE BERRY *Continued*

was that first Halle had to detach herself from her celebrity, from everyone else's image of who she was and what she should be. Only then could she face what she now sees was the shallowness of her life. "It was hard for me to look in the mirror and admit I was living a superficial existence and really take ownership for that," she says. "When you're a so-called celebrity, it's very easy not to deal with yourself because everybody is loving you, everybody is giving you things, everybody is doing so much for you that you don't have to do anything for yourself."

Including think. When Halle found the courage to examine her life, however, what she discovered was nothing short of life-changing. "I realized I had to stop blaming my father for all the things that were wrong in my relationships," she says. "While his absence was part of it, a lot had to do with me and my choices. I would say I wanted somebody real in my life, but then I would be attracted to the superficial."

Invariably, she would use her relationships to hide her true feelings, from herself as well as others. "I knew there was a deep spiritual being inside me, but I was afraid to let that be seen for fear of rejection, fear of judgment, fear of not being this person the public had made me out to be. So I lived up to her. That's why, when my marriage was falling apart, I was saying, 'We're the happiest couple

in the world.' I should have said a lot sooner that, not only was my marriage not perfect, I was miserable."

And terrified of leaving her 20s, single and alone. "I had a lot of anxiety about turning 30," she confides. "I was divorcing at the time and I felt like such a failure. I wanted a family desperately and, being diabetic, I thought, 'I'm not going to get to have babies because by the time I heal, I'm going to be too old.'"

The age issue aside, Halle couldn't imagine herself ever trusting her heart to someone so completely again. "There was a time after the divorce when I was really bitter," she admits. "I convinced myself I didn't want to get married again and that was okay because I didn't need to rush into another relationship. Now that I'm stronger and wiser, I know what I need in a relationship. I know what it looks like and what it feels like. I know what I want in a man."

Which is? "Someone who values the institution of marriage and all that means," she answers. "It's one thing to be out with the cameras flashing and the fans waving, but I need someone who I can share the quiet moments with. Someone who can be happy sitting on the sofa with me, just looking at the sunset and have that be enough."

At 32, Halle has discovered something else she needs that is equally, if not more, crucial to her happiness.

"When you live a public life, privacy is such a scarce commodity that you need something that belongs just to you," she says. "I now realize I need to keep my private life private and that I have the power to say that part of my life is for me alone. I'm no longer going to let my personal life overshadow my professional life or be accountable to the press or the public for the choices I make."

Which is why the only thing she will say about her relationship with recording artist Eric Benét, whom she has been widely reported to be dating, is this: "I've been a big fan of Eric's music since his first record came out, and we really just hit it off as people. We're very good friends." Just friends or something more? Halle thinks for a moment, then looks out on her terrace. "Eric has been through some serious experiences that have made him grow, and so we have a lot to talk about on many different levels," she says finally. "That's really all I want to say."

While Halle will say no more about Benét, she can't seem to stop talking about Dandridge. "I feel like I've been preparing for this role half my life," says Halle who, before she shot a single scene, spent months taking dance lessons ("Every move we took from something we saw her do"), singing lessons ("Just to get the breathing down so I could lip-sync more effectively"), and talking with Dandridge's closest friend and confidante, Geri Branton.

"Geri was in the hospital having hip surgery when I first went to meet her," says Halle, who not only gave up her salary to make more money available for the movie, but served as its executive producer so she could have a voice in everything from casting to script. "It was really emotional because she said to me, 'You were always the one I wanted to play Dorothy, and now that you're sitting in front of me, I see you're the only one who can play her. You even have Dottie's feet!' When she said that, I just broke down crying." Which is exactly what Halle did the night she took Branton to see the movie and she told Halle the one thing the actress had dreamed so long of hearing: She had found Dandridge's spirit and captured it onscreen. "She absolutely stole the essence of Dottie and she truly understood her," Branton says of Halle's portrayal of her best friend. "I felt like, for two hours, I'd been visiting with Dottie again. She would have been so pleased, so happy."

And so, finally, is Halle. □



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Who Was The Real Dorothy Dandridge?

Did she commit suicide or was her death an accident?



Popular *EBONY* covers (including those that were published in April 1951, March 1966 and August 1997) have been a part of the Dorothy Dandridge legend. In preparation for the production of the HBO movie, *Introducing Dorothy Dandridge*, Halle Berry and her designers created a gown and a persona based on photographs from *EBONY* covers. Dandridge, who died in 1965, combined glamor and sex appeal to become an internationally recognized star.

By Walter Leavy



THE coroner's report, dated Nov. 19, 1965, was the last chapter in the tragic story of a genuine, strikingly beautiful entertainer. Within the 18-page report labeled "Case No. 20813" was the long-awaited conclusion: Dorothy Jean Dandridge, Hollywood's first authentic Black sex symbol, had died from acute drug intoxication due to an overdose of Tofranil, an antidepressant. She was only 42.

When the final curtain rang down, the star of such movies as *Carmen Jones* and *Porgy and Bess* was found lying on the bathroom floor of her Sunset Strip apartment. It marked the end of a troubled life that was punctuated by pain, sorrow, disappointment and one heartbreaking tragedy after another. But there were numerous triumphs, too, prompting those who knew her best to compare her life to a bright, shiny apple that has internal bruises. On the outside she was beautiful and surrounded by all the trappings that befit a star. But on the inside she suffered from the personal turmoil that wreaked havoc on her soul.

Next month (September 8) marks the 34th anniversary of Dorothy Dandridge's death, and her name still evokes some special thoughts and feelings. For many who knew her personally or simply worshipped her from afar, the adulation, the memories and the mysteries still remain. That continuing interest has led to the birth of several screenplays based on the sex goddess' life, and Halle Berry portrays the legendary star in HBO's most recent production, *Introducing Dorothy Dandridge*.

Dandridge, a 5-foot-5, honey-colored woman, was a ravishing beauty who had a sensual swagger. She became the silver screen's hottest Black sex symbol and was described at one time as one of the five most beautiful women in the world. Her beauty, grace, good singing voice and acting ability all came into play during the transformation of her life into a classic Hollywood

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Harolyn's mentality, doctors said, wouldn't develop beyond that of a 4-year-old.

It was speculated that somehow, before delivery, the infant's supply of oxygen had been interrupted. Dorothy believed she waited too long to go to the hospital. But it was later said, however, that the brain damage could have been caused during delivery. "Dottie never got over the overwhelming guilt she felt because she thought she was responsible for her child's condition. She lived with that thought every day of her life," says Geraldine Branton, who at one time was married to Harold's brother, Fayard Nicholas, and was Dorothy's best friend. "You could never convince her she wasn't at fault. And nothing she did made up for what she felt she had done."

Harolyn was taken from doctor to doctor in a desperate attempt to find a cure for her problem. There was none. Dorothy sank deeper into her depression, and at the same time, her marriage to Harold Nicholas was crumbling. They drifted apart, and after seven years, their marriage ended in divorce in 1949.

During the early years of their marriage (above) Dandridge is shown with her husband, Harold Nicholas of the dancing Nicholas Brothers. That seven-year union ended in divorce in 1949. At right, the entertainer began her career as a nightclub singer.

DOROTHY DANDRIDGE *Continued*

tale—one with a bittersweet mixture of joy and pain. First there was the fruit of her labor—the fame, the \$100,000 per movie, a collection of jewels, a mansion in Hollywood Hills and a white Thunderbird car that was accentuated by the matching white beaver coat in which she wrapped herself. She was a star among stars.

Sadly, though, whatever glory she grasped from that pedestal was often overshadowed by the seemingly inevitable and heavy doses of disaster and despair—two failed marriages, an abortion after an affair with producer/director Otto Preminger, a child who suffered brain damage, a floundering career, loss of a fortune in bad investments, eight lawsuits from creditors, the foreclosure on her elegant home and, finally, the embarrassment of bankruptcy. "There's no doubt that the tragedies, some of them extreme in nature, directly contributed to Dorothy's death," says Earl Mills, who began to serve as Dorothy's manager in 1951 and was still in that position when she died. "Each tragic event took a little bit more out of her and eventually there was nothing else to take."

The tragedy that took the most involved her daughter, Harolyn, who was mentally retarded as a result of brain damage suffered at birth. Dorothy, who at the time was married to Harold Nicholas of the dancing Nicholas Brothers, was constantly burdened with guilt and depression because she believed she was responsible for the child's condition. It was two years after the birth that she learned the horrible truth—



Now the walls seemed to be closing in on Dorothy. She felt she had failed as a mother and as a wife. And now without a husband, without money and with a child to care for, she had to get back to what she knew best—performing. But before renewing the career she had put on hold after her marriage, she reacquainted herself with famed vocal coach and composer Phil Moore. Years earlier, he had worked with Dorothy and her sister, Vivian, when they were billed as "The Wonder Children" and, later, as "The Dandridge Sisters" (which included Etta Jones).

After Moore boosted her confidence and taught her to mask her shyness, Dorothy found private care for her daughter and hit the nightclub circuit. She was like a little girl trying to be brave in a very frightening world at the time she took her first big-time job at the Mocambo in Hollywood. "I had no material and no confidence," she said of that engagement, "and to top it off, I was shy. But the people just seemed to like to look at me."

They really liked what they saw—the flawless figure, the dreamy eyes, the smooth *café au lait* complexion, the sensuous mouth and the smooth elegance. She went on to conquer international audiences and break attendance records at hotels, including New York's Waldorf-Astoria.

There, Dorothy became the first Black to sing in the hotel's world-famed Empire Room, and over the years she integrated many of the other previously "Whites only" night spots. Although some Blacks accused her of having "gone over to the other side" because of her romances with White men, she used her career as a platform to speak out for civil rights. She refused to perform in any club that wouldn't set aside a special table near the stage for members of the NAACP in the city in which she was scheduled to perform. She was proud of that and frequently wore an "EQUALITY" button that the National Urban League distributed in those days.

Dandridge's singing career continued to blossom, and all the time she exhibited a joyous and tranquil facade. But as



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During her last days, Dandridge had gained weight and had begun to drink frequently in an effort to ease her anxieties. Before she died on September 8, 1965, the actress left a detailed, handwritten note (right) with instructions for whomever discovered her body.

DOROTHY DANDRIDGE *Continued*

was the case so many times in her life, what seemed to be reality really wasn't. She suffered inside and fought hard to hide the tears. The truth is, she hated everything about working in nightclubs—the cigarette smoke, the liquor, the men who ogled her and those who threw themselves at her. But this was the only way to make the much-needed money, and she believed it was the best way to achieve her ultimate goal—movie stardom.

In 1953, her perseverance paid off. After bit parts in some forgettable, low-budget films, she starred opposite Harry Belafonte in MGM's all-Black production of *Bright Road*. A year later, *Carmen Jones*, the '50s' most lavish all-Black production, based on Bizet's opera *Carmen*, made her an international star. Again starring with Belafonte, she took the title role and twisted it around her finger, playing a sultry factory worker who corrupts Belafonte, dumps him and is killed by him for her unfaithfulness.

The performance won her worldwide acclaim and an Oscar nomination as Best Actress of the Year, another first for a Black. She was turning up on all the major magazine covers, and for men—both Black and White—she had

become the No. 1 object of their desire. When she thought that she had finally achieved her dream, tragedy struck again. Racism still had its place in Hollywood. Dorothy Dandridge had been elevated to leading-lady status, and on the screen leading ladies make love to leading men. But Hollywood wasn't prepared for what it created.

With the exception of Belafonte and Sidney Poitier, there were no romantic Black male leads. And with Dorothy's sex appeal, her character had to sizzle. Producers didn't know how to handle an intimate Black-White relationship on screen, and, with no solutions in sight, they ignored it.

So after her performance in *Carmen Jones* raised some great expectations for the future, her bubble suddenly burst. Roles didn't come her way. It was three years before she appeared in another film, *Island in the Sun*, where she was cast in her first interracial love role—a role that had to be limited to little more than hand-holding.

Surely the lack of roles greatly frustrated this Cleveland-born star, but the compromises made in the few roles she got infuriated her. She was a perfectionist, a strong woman who had the courage to face the controversies that her characters might have created. "Dorothy

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ever discovers a
it - Don't remove
anything I have
on - Scarf gown
or other underwear -
Cremate me right
away - If there
anything wrong, please
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After Dandridge's death, actor Peter Lawford (foreground) serves as one of the pallbearers during the actress' funeral services. She was cremated, and her ashes are encased in the Sanctuary of Prayer, Court of Victory, at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, Calif.

DOROTHY DANDRIDGE *Continued*

was probably as frustrated as any actress could be who was Black," says Brock Peters, who starred with her in *Carmen Jones*. "She had the talent and the looks, but she couldn't find an open door so those talents could be displayed regularly and appreciated by the audiences she developed through *Carmen Jones*."

Ironically, it was the sexy role in *Carmen Jones* that brought Dorothy international fame, but, friends say, that was an image she didn't like and one she tried desperately but unsuccessfully to shake. Producers always wanted to cast her in the role of the girl with no sense of morality, a passionate woman of easy virtue. There were no offers to play diversified, untyped characters. "Dottie absolutely hated the sexpot image and, subsequently, she felt that her good looks were a curse," says Branton. "She wanted people to take her seriously, so much so that she had hoped to make enough money to produce a script of her own—a script that had some social significance."

Dorothy's search for significant roles continued and, in 1959, she was cast in her last important American film, *Porgy and Bess*. But by this time, her personal life was becoming totally unglued. She was frantically searching for love, only to be frequently greeted with disappointment and heartache. Men openly took advantage of her trust and generosity. One of her romances involving Otto Preminger was characteristic of her lack of luck with men. The producer-director and Dorothy had become romantically involved during the filming of *Carmen Jones*, and the relationship, close friends say, progressed to the point of talk about marriage—until she became pregnant. According to these

insiders, Preminger walked out, an abortion followed and it was the end of another bitter, unfulfilling romance.

Before she rebounded, enter White restaurateur Jack Denison who, her friends say, was "the most disastrous and destructive element in Dorothy's life." He was a handsome, smooth-talking man who reportedly jumped at the chance to woo a vulnerable, heartsick woman. In her autobiography, *Everything and Nothing: The Dorothy Dandridge Tragedy*, she said: "Some people kill themselves with drink, others with overdoses, some with a gun; a few of them hurl themselves in front of trains or autos. I hurled myself in front of another White man."

Denison showed her warmth, admiration and love, then dropped the magic word—marriage. They were wed in 1959. "That marriage was the major catastrophe in her life—a catastrophe that contributed to her death more than people will ever know," Mills says. "Denison was a con artist who wanted to live off her earnings and have her provide financially for his sinking restaurant business. He put up a good front, but on their wedding night he told her he was broke."

When they wed, Dorothy was earning about \$250,000 a year. And, Branton says, Denison was persuasive enough to get his new wife to make a series of bad decisions. She poured money into his failing restaurant and even sang regularly at his "third-rate" club, a move she knew would drastically reduce her standing in the show business world. But she did it anyway. Then, again, heartache entered the picture. When Dandridge's bank account had been milked dry, the marriage ended.

In 1962 she filed for divorce, charg-

ing Denison with extreme mental cruelty and claiming that he struck her on several occasions. But Denison wasn't finished. He reportedly wanted half of everything she had left and allegedly cut sheets, pillow cases and other items right down the middle.

As if that wasn't bad enough, Dandridge almost immediately was hit with another devastating blow. On the day she filed for divorce, her mentally retarded daughter (then 18) was literally dumped on her doorstep. Dorothy had missed two months of payment for the private care Harolyn was receiving. With no money left for private care, she made the agonizing decision to have her sometimes violent daughter committed to a state institution.

The decline and fall of Dorothy Dandridge was not yet complete. Five months after the divorce, her life grew gloomier. With the money gone and 77 creditors closing in, she filed for bankruptcy. Her assets were a mere \$5,000, but her debts had climbed to a staggering \$127,994.80. All of the comforts she once enjoyed were gone. She had been reduced to living in a small apartment, and her friends sometimes chipped in to help pay the rent.

After that litany of despair, Dorothy somehow got herself together and by early 1965 had begun to turn her life around. The vitality for which she was known was back, and with it came new job offers. She was scheduled to receive \$10,000 for appearing at New York's Basin Street East, another \$50,000 would come from an acting role in an American Western, and she already had gotten a \$10,000 advance to write her autobiography. Bigger still, though, was the deal she completed south of the border. In Oaxaca, Mexico, she signed a \$100,000 contract to do two films there, and she immediately flew back home to prepare for her New York engagement. The next day she was dead, found sprawled on her bathroom floor naked, except for a blue head scarf. Officials say she was the victim of tranquilizers.

Authorities never determined whether the actress' death was an accident or suicide. But friends are quick to rule out suicide because she was experiencing such a dramatic, positive turnaround in her life. Perhaps it's fitting that the questions still surround the life and death of Dorothy Dandridge. She was an enigma. And we may never know exactly what occurred in those last few moments of her life. Whatever happened, it brought about a much-too-early end to the life of a brilliant but troubled star.

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GHANA'S SUMMIT SUCCESS

Largest contingent of Black Americans ever to travel to Africa convenes for the fifth African-African American Summit





The Rev. Leon Sullivan (above, l.), founder of the biennial African-African American Summit, shares the podium with Ghana's President Jerry Rawlings, host of the fifth summit in Accra. Leaders of 19 African nations (opposite page, top) attended the summit and addressed the delegates at a presidential plenary session. Below, about 3,500 of the 5,000 delegates—including the heads of state—posed for an official summit portrait.

By Charles Whitaker
*Photographs by
 Frederick L. Watkins Jr.*

MORE than 3,500 people crammed the auditorium of the Accra International Conference Center in Ghana, West Africa. Before them sat leaders from 19 African nations—including nine presidents—and the man who brought them all together, the Rev. Leon Sullivan, founder and convener of the African-African American Summit.

The summit, a meeting of minds, talents and resources, is designed to strengthen the bonds of heritage and history that tie Black Americans to Africa. The presidential plenary session—the traditional centerpiece of the week-long gathering—is a chance for African leaders to outline ways in which Africans and African-Americans can work more closely together.

Their collective plea, as emphasized by Jerry Rawlings, president of Ghana, was for more action than words in support of Africa. "Africa has had its share of well-intentioned declarations and resolutions, yet nothing seems to come of them," Rawlings told the crowd. "If those declarations were worth their weight in gold, Africa would be a

healthy, developed continent. But words are not enough. We need action."

And action was the order of this the fifth and largest African-African American summit. A distinguished array of more than 1,000 African-Americans—the largest contingent of African-Americans ever to converge on the continent—met with African leaders, educators and business people to further the business of furthering business and trade in Africa, as well as address the continent's other needs.

Launched eight years ago by Rev. Sullivan, the seemingly indefatigable 76-year-old veteran of the civil rights struggle, the biennial summits have grown from a mere cultural expedition into a week of strategy sessions in which policies and programs are debated and developed.

At the first summit, convened in 1991 in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, about 300 African-Americans—from civil rights leaders to politicians—accompanied Sullivan. The subsequent summits—held in Libreville, Gabon, in 1993; Dakar, Senegal, in 1995; and Harare, Zimbabwe, in 1997—have expanded Sullivan's vision of "building a bridge that will help move Africa forward as it has never moved before." The number of participants has expanded exponentially as well.

For 1999's "Millennium Summit," presided over in large measure by Presi-

dent Rawlings, it took two DC-10s to transport the 1,000-member delegation, which included doctors, attorneys, educators, business, religious and civic leaders, as well as families seeking a greater cultural and spiritual connection to the motherland.

All were warned, however, that this was no mere pleasure trip. "This summit is serious business," Sullivan told the assemblage as they prepared to board the Ghana Airways jets that carried them from John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York to Accra. "This is not a conference. This is not a convention. This is not a vacation. This is a SUMMIT! Our work is to help nudge a continent ahead and to show the world what Africans and African-Americans can do."

For more than two decades Sullivan has preached a gospel that exhorts African-Americans to lobby for and support Africa. He was among the early activists who protested for the end of the brutal Apartheid system in South Africa. And his Opportunities Industrialization Centers (OIC), an agency dedicated to helping minorities develop valuable vocational and technical skills, and The International Foundation for Education and Self Help (IFESH) have been involved in the training of 3 million Africans for jobs, including bankers and business persons, and have trained teachers and built schools



On opening day of the summit, Rev. Sullivan cuts the ribbon and signals the confab's official start. At a state dinner (left) hosted by President Rawlings and his wife, Nana Konadu Agyemang Rawlings, Rev. Sullivan cuts the summit cake as the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. looks on. Below, U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, head of the delegation representing President Clinton, addresses the special session on women's issues.



SUMMIT *Continued*

through much of West Africa. Sullivan maintains that Black Americans have a moral obligation to reach out to Africa.

"African-Americans are among the most affluent Black people in the world," he says. "Somehow God has blessed us in a manner that He has blessed no other Black people. And now it's time for us to help our brothers and sisters around the world. It's time for us to help Africa. If we don't, we should be ashamed of ourselves. If we don't, we have no reason to be around."

To address the yawning need for African-Americans to insinuate themselves in the development of Africa, Sullivan devised the concept of a summit—an intense series of workshops and conference sessions designed to promote trade, tackle social problems and stimulate investment in Africa. "When I first proposed the summits, people called it foolish," he said. "But look at us today."

A true testament to the increasing influence and success of the summits was the caliber of its participants.





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Drummers and dancers (above) greeted summit delegates at the entrance of each session. At right, Tejan Kabbah, president of Sierra Leone (top), and Mathieu Kerekou, president of Benin, listen to interpreters during the proceedings at the presidential plenary session, the centerpiece of the summit events.

SUMMIT *Continued*

President Clinton was represented by a six-member delegation headed by U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, the keynote speaker for one of the summit luncheons and moderator for several panels on trade and economic development. The delegation also included the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who served as a special envoy to the president.

Fresh from his triumph in Yugoslavia, where he negotiated the release of the three American servicemen captured by the Serbians, Jackson took the opportunity of the summit to travel to Sierra Leone to help negotiate a cease-fire between the rebel and government forces locked in a bloody civil war. It was an effort he described as "bigger than Kosovo."

"There are thousands of displaced children and families in Sierra Leone," he said, "but we don't read or hear about that in the Western media. We have an opportunity here with this summit to focus the world's attention on that and other struggles in Africa."

Also on hand for the summit were NAACP President and CEO Kweisi Mfame, National Urban League President Hugh Price, Coretta Scott King, Denver Mayor Wellington Webb, Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer and former National Council for Negro Women President Dorothy Height, as well as representatives of the most prominent African-American professional and service organizations.

In addition, the summit attracted nearly 4,000 African delegates from across the continent, and the presidents or vice presidents of 19 nations who participated in a special plenary session presided over by



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During the session on women's issues, Coretta Scott King (above) notes the plight of women and children throughout the Diaspora. Below, NAACP President and CEO Kweisi Mfume greets former Atlanta mayor Andrew Young. Included in the delegation representing President Clinton were: (bottom, l. to r.) Charles Duncan, director of presidential personnel; Lottie Shackelford of the Overseas Private Investment Corp.; and Ben Johnson, director of the president's For One America initiative. Former U.S. Agriculture Sec. Mike Espy (below) and August Schunnacher Jr., current USDA undersecretary for farms and foreign agricultural services, address delegates at one of the sessions on agriculture.



SUMMIT *Continued*

President Rawlings.

The workshops touched on subjects ranging from the improvement of education and medical care throughout Africa to promoting agriculture and foreign investment. "What impressed me about this summit," said Dr. Edith Irby Jones, the former president of the National Medical Association and a participant in several of the sessions on



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At the presidential plenary session, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a special envoy to President Clinton, confers with Emmanuel Daniel Ondo Methogo, vice prime minister of Gabon. Below, Attorney Michael Brown, president of the foundation named for his late father, former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown, greets National Urban League President Hugh Price.

SUMMIT *Continued*

health and preventable disease, "was that we just didn't sit around and talk about the health problems affecting Africa. We actually put down a plan of attack and timetables for addressing those issues. So that within weeks we will have people on committees, people procuring vaccines and people actually working to eradicate and stop the spread of things like AIDS and tuberculosis and some of these other very preventable diseases."

Business and economic development remained one of the key issues of the week. Stating that Africa has "every reason to expect a relationship with

African-Americans," Rev. Jackson encouraged the visiting delegates to invest in Ghana's fledgling stock exchange. "We should not merely go back home with all the masks and trinkets and kente cloth you can carry out of the market; we have an opportunity and a duty to invest in Africa," he said.

Rev. Sullivan weighed in with a set of initiatives also designed to encourage entrepreneurship among would-be African business persons. The cornerstone of his plan, unveiled at one of the summit luncheons, is a project called the People's Investment Fund in Africa, an initiative calling for African-Americans to invest either \$500, \$1,000 or

\$2,000 in a fund designed to stimulate the growth of small businesses on the continent. Backed by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, a federal agency that assists American businesses expanding in developing nations, Sullivan has guaranteed a 6 percent rate of return on the investment. He received more than \$200,000 in pledges from summit delegates on the spot.

Sullivan also called for the institution of what he termed the "Global Sullivan Principles," a checklist of fairness and accountability to which he will ask American companies doing business in Africa to subscribe in an effort to prevent the sort of economic exploitation that has ravaged the continent. And he continued his enduring call for African Americans to lobby for cancellation of the \$100 billion in official debt—the

“Somehow God has blessed us in a manner that He has blessed no other Black people. And now it's time for us to help our brothers and sisters around the world. It's time for us to help Africa.”



equivalent of an economic millstone—that makes development a virtual impossibility for so many African nations.

"Debt relief is critical to the salvation of Africa," he said. "We've forgiven the debt of so many other countries—Russia, Japan, Germany. We must have debt relief for Africa."

While declaring the fifth African-American summit a success, Sullivan acknowledged that there remains a lot to do on the continent. But he declared that these biennial gatherings will continue to be a part of that development. Looking ahead to the Summit of 2001—the location of which has yet to be determined—he said Ghana and its leadership had raised the bar and the expectations for Summits to come. "Our next host country will have a long way to go to catch up." □

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Casual Luxury




Left: William Calvert designs V-neck body sculptured satin evening gown with three-quarter-length sleeves, and floor-dragging train.



Right: Two-piece taffeta evening ensemble with spaghetti-strap top and A-line skirt, by Nicole Miller.


FROM NEW YORK CITY

By Eunice W. Johnson



Right: Deep, scoop-neck, diagonal water-wave, muted striped, knitted maxidress with horizontally striped long sleeves, by Xuly Bet.

Two-piece ensemble with ethnic-patterned, sleeveless, mock turtle-neck, midriff sweater and palazzo pants, by Ralph Lauren. Accessorized with knit ski headband.



Far right: Mock neck, sleeveless dress with double-belted pouch, by BCBG (Bon Chic Bon Genre).

In these times of ever-changing trends, it is not unusual to see contrasting styles at the same event. At glamorous Hollywood galas, some celebrities wear luxurious gowns. Others wear upscale versions of

jeans and leather suits. So it is not surprising to see New York designers offer ensembles that combine casual comfort with sophisticated glamour. There are simple, elegant gowns with dragging hems, and casual tops paired with voluminous skirts. One designer

shows a flowing crepe gown that is elegant and chic but certainly not the usual evening wear. In coming seasons, luxurious casuals will be on the scene, and labeled hot casual items.



Right: Strapless, floral-print taffeta, floor-length dress with draped bodice top and hip line, by **Todd Thomas**.



Above: **Oscar de la Renta** designs camel double-faced wool ensemble featuring knee-length coat with crossed fox-notched collar, wool skirt and waffle-weave turtleneck sweater. Note: Knee-high suede boots.



Left: Two-piece skirt and jacket ensemble featuring round-neck, long-sleeves, three-button closure, front pockets and belted at waist, by **Geoffrey Beene** of New York. Note: Unusual shoulder treatment on jacket.

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Right: Long, flowing, crepe evening maxidress with roll-neck collar, short sleeves, side pockets and bias-cut skirt, by **Todd Thomas**.



Above: Vertical-stitched, sleeveless, high-neck leather top with navel exposure, worn with low hip-hugging skirt with five-metal clasp closures down front, by **Todd Thomas**. Note: Knee-high suede boots.



Right: Renowned wedding dress designer **Vera Wang** of New York creates sleeveless, sheer, A-line, below-the-knee dress with asymmetrical neckline and criss-cross sequin line design. Accessorized with matching double-strap sandals.

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FROM THE EBONY FILES

At the March on Washington, internationally renowned singer Mahalia Jackson delivers a stirring rendition of the spiritual "I've Been 'Buked and I've Been Scorned" during the August 28, 1963, demonstration. More than 250,000 people participated in the demonstration that, at the time, was the largest civil rights demonstration in history. For nearly three hours, the mass of people listened to a variety of speakers, including the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who delivered on this day his famous "I Have A Dream" speech. The speakers demanded immediate passage of a civil rights bill and implementation of basic guarantees outlined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.



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HOW COUPLES CAN AVOID

Fighting Over Money

Experts say communication is the key

By Joy Bennett Kinnon



Arguments about money are a frequent source of conflict in many relationships. Open discussion may smooth out discord, experts say.

Examining early attitudes about money can help get to the heart of many financial issues, he says. "Because many people just assume the savings and investment and money management habits of their parents," Boston adds, "a good place to begin is the partner's family background. Do the parents own their own home or business? Do they invest in the stock market? These are the types of things you should discuss."

It's absolutely vital to the relationship to establish an open communication about money matters, say clinical psychologists Derek Hopson and Darlene Powell Hopson, authors of *Friends, Lovers and Soul Mates—A Guide to Better Relationships Between Black Men and Black Women*. The couple have been mar-

IT's all about the Benjamins," baby. "God Bless the Child" who's got his own. "First I look at the purse."

From Billie Holiday to Puff Daddy, with some Motown stops in-between, African-American couples have money on their minds. And the word on the streets and in boardrooms is that without adequate finance and, more importantly, without joint decisions on how the household finance is earned, distributed and invested, romance becomes very rocky indeed.

In order to make sweet music together as a couple, experts advise new partners to take stock of their financial compatibility. While opposites may attract in the bedroom, financial opposites who join together for better or worse will find the worse much sooner than the better.

"It's really important for couples to assess what their partners' money personality is," says Kelvin Boston, author of *Smart Money Moves for African Americans* and host and executive producer of PBS' *Moneywise with Kelvin Boston* television series. Specifically, he says, you should know whether your partner is a "saver or a spender; someone who likes to share or someone who doesn't."

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Financial planning (left), beginning with prenuptial agreements, may help financial partners prioritize their spending.

FIGHTING *Continued*

ried for 14 years, have two children, and are currently working on a book about team-parenting.

"Inevitably we're going to have conflicts about money," Hopson says. "It's really about how do we resolve them and how do we communicate about it."

In their practice, the Hopsons often begin counseling by asking couples to examine their financial backgrounds and those of their parents. Early experience sets the tone for how most people handle their money and how they are reacting to money issues in their relationship.

And often what the couple is fighting about, experts say, is not about money, but control, intimacy and trust—and other psychological problems masquerading as financial management issues. Some of the issues have to do with security and with deprivation, others with people becoming materialistic as a way of boosting their

self-esteem.

"Basically we think that underlying the issue of financial management is really your level of intimacy, trust, openness and communication," says Powell Hopson.

The money relationships between affluent couples can turn into a control issue. "Some men feel they should have more to say in the relationship because they are bringing in such a big paycheck, and that's an unfortunate thing because it does set up this power struggle where one person does feel valued less," says Hopson.

The problem can be acute when the woman earns substantially more than her mate. "It's not always fair to say we'll split things 50-50, regardless of whether it's the man or the woman earning more," says Boston. "Couples should use a percentage; this year someone might be doing 40 and someone else 60; next year it could be reversed and they have to make adjustments every year."

Some celebrity couples who have large sums of money use money as a power and control issue in their marriage, the Hopsons say. "Some people feel like if I have the power then I can dictate what you do, and I can treat you in ways that are condescending or inferior," Powell Hopson adds. "So getting people to break that connection and not use money as a way of controlling your partner is critical."

Along with celebrity clients, the couple also counsels couples struggling to pay their bills. The resentment and stress these couples face in not being able to pay their bills often affects their marital relationship. "But the couples that we see the most often are in the middle," Hopson says. "These are the couples who are living beyond their means and are still able to survive but with a lot of stress and pressure because they are in debt. They look comfortable, they look like they have money, but they know."

In other words, couples who are "fronting" dangle precariously on the

4 \$ Tips

1. Timing is everything. Don't try to talk about finances in the middle of a financial crisis. Try a more appropriate, i.e., calmer time.
2. Discuss long-term and short-term goals and develop a strategy to attain them.
3. Prepare for the unexpected. Beef up savings with a rainy-day plan that will weather a financial crisis.
4. Don't use money to manipulate and control your partner, and never use earning power as a weapon in an argument.

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Communication between partners helps develop healthy attitudes about money say experts, Kelvin Boston (right), author of *Smart Money Moves for African Americans* and host and executive producer of PBS' *Moneywise with Kelvin Boston*, and (left) noted licensed clinical psychologists Drs. Derek S. Hopson and Darlene Powell Hopson, authors of *Friends, Lovers, and Soul Mates—A Guide to Better Relationships Between Black Men and Women*.



“Do you want to have marital bliss or do you want financial blues? The best way not to have financial blues is to discuss the issue openly.”

FIGHTING *Continued*

marital cliff of confrontation. “There is often a breakdown in communication,” he says, “when one partner decides to buy, spend or purchase those things that they want and they don’t talk to the other partner,” he adds.

Talking then becomes the key to not fighting over money and the role it plays in your lives. A major litmus test for couples is whether to have individual or joint accounts. “Derek and I have joint accounts,” Powell Hopson says. “For us, it’s a way of demonstrating the trust and intimacy we have with each other.”

Joint accounts often fly in the face of homespun wisdom that tells everyone to have his/her own little nest egg. Boston says that couples should do whatever works for the relationship. “I do believe that females should have at least one or two separate accounts, primarily because the reality is we don’t know if and when there might be a separation and they need to have their own credit estab-

lished,” Boston says. This also gives the family more flexibility in the long run. “It gives the family another place to go; if everything is tied up jointly, it limits your options.”

Financial experts say African-American couples should make the most of their financial options while the economy is booming. “Right now, America is the only economy that is doing well in the world,” Boston says. “Couples should be saying that no matter what happens, we are going to try to save so much money every year to pay down our mortgage, and to get out of debt, so that in the long-term no matter what happens in the economy, we’re going to be intact as a family.”

Other expert suggestions for financial harmony include:

Timing is everything. Don’t try to talk about finances in the middle of a financial crisis. Try a more appropriate, i.e., calmer time.

Discuss long-term and short-term goals and develop a strategy to attain them.

Prepare for the unexpected. Beef up savings with a rainy-day plan that will weather a financial crisis.

Don’t use money to manipulate and control your partner, and never use earning power as a weapon in an argument.

The problem is simple, says Boston. “Do you want marital bliss or do you want the financial blues in your relationship?” The financial expert, who is currently at work on a companion guide to his *Smart Money Moves* book, says the best way to avoid singing the financial blues is to discuss issues of finance openly. “We care enough about each other that we don’t want finances to be a struggle,” Hopson adds. “If anything, it’s a demonstration of how we value each other and how we respect each other.”

Boston and other experts say African-American couples have had to be more flexible in order to survive. “In order to make ends meet and survive, both partners have had to be out there in the workforce and it really created this interdependence, this alliance and the feeling that you’re both giving something important to the financial survival of the family,” Hopson says.

And when it comes to the financial planning and the survival of the family, most couples can agree that’s an issue worth fighting for. □

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IT'S A SMOOTHER PLACE TO BE.

HOLLYWOOD'S HOTTEST

By Aldore D. Collier

ODDS, no matter how herculean, just don't matter. Not when it involves dreams. Not for Black females who are determined to take their place on the big or small screen. No matter how high the mountain, some have been told since they've been able to walk that they ought to be in pictures. Others were ensnared when they did school or church plays. Still others saw great movies or television series and decided immediately that the Hollywood fantasy world was to be their destiny.

And now, finally, Hollywood is taking notice of the diverse talents that Black women have always possessed. A new crop of Black actresses is landing some of the sexiest, most dynamic and most alluring roles in television and movies. No longer are they relegated to being merely a White actress' best friend or just some guy's cute girlfriend.

Sure, the beginning of the century saw Black actresses primarily as servants or slaves, but the end of the millennium is witnessing up-and-coming Black females getting some of the meatiest roles. And they're not roles specifically written for Black actresses. They're finally being portrayed on the screen as multitasking, beautiful individuals with significant contributions to make to that world created by Tinsel Town.

TANGI MILLER

As a kid growing up in Miami, Tangi Miller wasn't even allowed to watch television. The star of the hit WB coming-of-age drama *Felicity* did, however, taste the acting elixir in high school productions. But, being practical, she decided to major in marketing while a student at Alabama State University. Still, the desire to act wouldn't die. She earned a master of fine arts degree at the University of California, Irvine, and studied at the Royal National Theater in London and the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. Her earliest acting appearances in movies came in the independent films *Tears of a Clown* and *Rhinos*. She has guest-starred on the HBO comedy series *Arli\$\$* and the dramatic TV series *Michael Hayes*.



STARLETS



ELISE NEAL

As Yvonne Hughley on the megahit sitcom *The Hughleys*, Elise Neal is one of the most visible actresses in prime time. The Memphis native appeared as a college student who was targeted by a killer in *Scream 2*. She also starred opposite Chris Tucker and Charlie Sheen in the action-comedy *Money Talks*. Neal has a starring role in the movie *Restaurant*, an independent film that is scheduled to be released later this year. Other film credits include *Rosewood*, *How To Be A Player*, *Tales of the City*, *There Was A Little Boy* and *Chance of a Lifetime*.

TAMALA JONES

Tamala Jones, who plays Bobbi Seawright on the WB Network's *For Your Love*, began her foray into acting by imitating all of the characters of such shows as *Fame* and *Good Times*. By the time she was 16, the Pasadena, Calif., native landed her first acting job—a national commercial for IBM. Several years later, a few high-profile, high-visibility roles came her way. She guest-starred on *The Wayans Brothers*, *The Parent 'Hood* and *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, and, in addition to her recurring role on the sitcom *Veronica's Closet*, she was Eriq LaSalle's niece on *ER*. Her big-screen debut had her cast as Maya Angelou's great-great-grandmother in a flashback sequence in *How To Make An American Quilt*. Jones also appeared in *Booty Call* and the teen comedy *Can't Hardly Wait*. She co-stars opposite Omar Epps and Taye Diggs in the movie *The Wood*.





TATYANA ALI

Tatyana Ali, who was introduced to TV audiences as Will Smith's little cousin Ashley on *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, is all grown up now and has embarked upon a singing career. Her debut album, *Kiss The Sky*, has helped her complete the transition from television star to recording artist. Tatyana, who has been performing since she was 4 years old, did theater in New York, where she sang, danced and acted in such productions as *Fences*, in which she co-starred with Billy Dee Williams. Although she's best known for her role in *Fresh Prince*, Ali also has appeared in a variety of other TV shows, including *Living Single* and *413 Hope Street*, and the movie *Kiss The Girls*. While making music continues to be Tatyana's top priority, she also made an appearance in this year's movie *Jawbreaker*.

TRINA MCGEE-DAVIS

Trina McGee-Davis' road to Hollywood began on the New York stage. A Bronx, N.Y., native, the co-star of the ABC hit *Boy Meets World* left Howard University after two years to vigorously pursue an acting career.

She first acted in the play *Chelsea Walls* with the Naked Angel Theater Group. She later appeared in *Club Twelve*, a hip-hop musical based on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. Answering an open cast call, she won a lead role in the Quincy Jones television pilot *Diva* and she has appeared in the movies *The Birdcage* and *Daylight*. In addition, McGee-Davis also has guest-starred on a variety of TV shows, including *Picket Fences*, *Martin*, *The Sinbad Show* and *Family Matters*.



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WENDY RAQUEL ROBINSON

A *cum laude* graduate of Howard University, Wendy Raquel Robinson boasts talents as an actress, dancer, singer, writer and choreographer. Robinson, who portrays principal Regina Grier on the WB sitcom *The Steve Harvey Show*, co-founded a theatrical training institute in Los Angeles in 1996. She had a recurring role on *NYPD Blue*, *M.A.N.T.I.S.* and *Me and the Boys* (which also starred Steve Harvey). She was featured in the movie *The Walking Dead* and the Martin Lawrence film *A Thin Line Between Love and Hate*. Her theater credits include performances in *The Colored Museum*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Agnes of God*.



LISAGAY HAMILTON

Known for her role as Rebecca on the award-winning drama *The Practice*, LisaGay Hamilton, who also co-starred in the movies *Beloved* and *True Crime*, finds herself torn between stage and screen. A graduate of the Juilliard School's drama division, the award-winning actress has a strong theater background with theater credits including *Measure and Measure* and August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson*. Her TV roles have come in such shows as *Homicide: Life on the Street*, *Law & Order* and the soap opera *One Life to Live*. Hamilton's work in the off-Broadway play *Valley Song* earned her a Clarence Derwent Award and an Obie Award for Best Actress.



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Top Black High

Academic Dream Team Heads To College



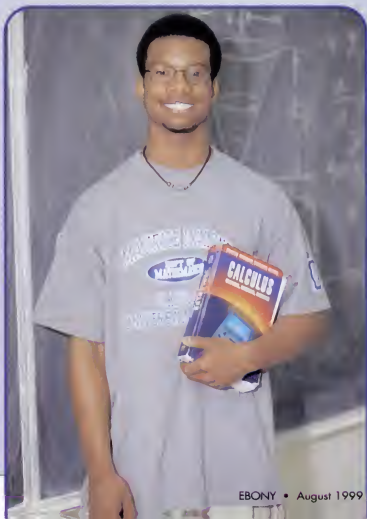
NANCY AMANDA REDD ranked in the top 5 percent of her class at Laurel Park High School in Martinsville, Va. In addition to being president of her senior class and a regional forensics champion, Redd was state president of the Virginia 4-H Club and a page for the Virginia general assembly. The talented scholar and mixed-media artist was a national winner of the Coca-Cola and Toyota scholarship programs. Redd will attend Harvard University.

With a 4.55 GPA, **THOMAS RAY JACKSON JR.** ranked in the top 5 percent of students at Whitney Young High School in Chicago. He was a recipient of a National Achievement scholarship and has been listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* for two consecutive years. He was vice president of the Rainbow/Push Coalition youth group, captain of the football and track teams and sat on the executive board of his school's National Honor Society. Jackson will attend the University of Michigan and major in chemical engineering.

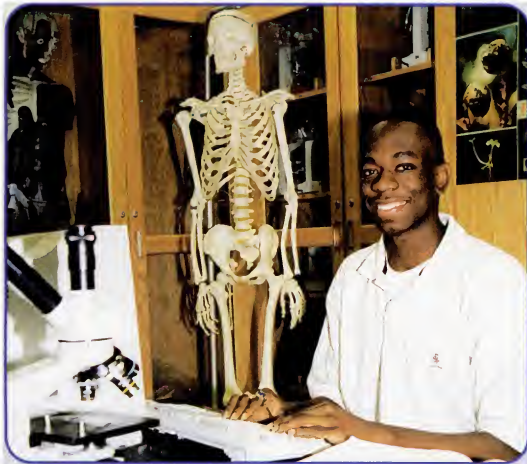
SOME people view graduation from high school as an ending. Four years of learning and living and it's over. But smart people like America's top Black high school seniors from the Class of '99 know that commencement is just a start. Having graduated at the head of their classes, the 23 scholars featured on the following pages are on their way to the country's best colleges and universities.

These talented youths met the rigors of high school classes while helping people in need. They spent after-school hours cleaning up communities, collecting canned goods to feed the hungry and mentoring children who were wilting from a lack of love. They helped to build up their schools and tear down negative stereotypes that plague today's generation of teens. They won top academic awards while participating in activities such as student council, drill and sports teams and the Red Cross Club. With their commitment, they inspired their peers and community while empowering themselves.

Now, they take their skills and energy to college. From Morehouse College to the University of Michigan, from Harvard to Howard universities, these young people are determined to inscribe their mark. We salute this academic dream team as they embark on their new role as college freshmen and begin, rather than end, their journey.



School Seniors



BRYAN A. COLE, who ranked third in his senior class at Oconee County High School in Watkinsville, Ga., will attend Yale University. He is an accomplished athlete and scholar, competing in varsity cross-country track meets since his sophomore year and winning recognition for excellence in Latin, foreign language, history and science. He belonged to the National Beta Club, served as vice president of the National Honor Society and was captain of the academic bowl competition. Cole also performed volunteer activities, including tutoring younger pupils, helping out at a local food bank and participating in a county "Secret Santa" program.

TREZANAY ATKINS, valedictorian of Arlington High School in Indianapolis, won a Phi Beta Kappa award and was named biology "student of the year." She was senior and junior class president of her high school class and was a member of the Key Club, Brain Game team, fellowship of Christian athletes and the drama club, among other activities. She will pursue her goal of becoming a corporate lawyer at Purdue University.





LATOIYA ATKINS ranked second in her class of 200 at Northwestern High School in Detroit. The All-American Scholar was a member of the National Honor Society, Alpha Phi Beta and was listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. She participated in a summer math corps program and dance events in the area. She plans to attend Wayne State University and major in engineering.



REBECCA CONNIE (above) was valedictorian of her class at Morgan Park High School in Chicago. She was an Illinois State Scholar, Xerox award winner and Chicago Urban League Scholar. Connie was a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, newspaper, and she volunteered at a retirement home and Imani House. She received more than \$50,000 in college scholarships. The aspiring astronaut will attend DePaul University.



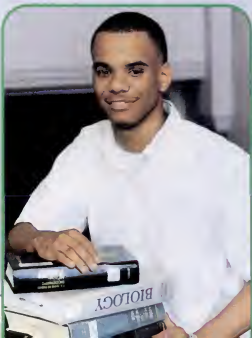
ANTONIO LAMONT BOWENS ranked among the top students at Fort Hayes Arts and Academic High School in Columbus, Ohio. He was a National Merit commended scholar, a two-time Telluride Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society. His school activities included the debate club, literary magazine, dramatic performances and academic league. He plans to major in psychology and computer graphic design this fall.



MORGAN KRISTEN DOOLEY was salutatorian of her class at Benjamin E. Mays High School in Atlanta. The accomplished scuba diver was a top student in her school, earning recognition in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* and being named an All-American, Ron Brown and National Achievement scholar. She earned more than \$150,000 in scholarship offers. She will attend Emory University this fall with the goal of becoming a doctor.

ALPHONSE RICHARDS

was valedictorian of Warren Easton Fundamental Senior High School in New Orleans. He was a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club and Youth Standing for Christ, and he worked with a homework-assistance hotline. He will study business administration in college with the plan to one day become a CEO.





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JENNIFER IMARA HAYES ranked third in her class at Metro Academic and Classical High School in St. Louis. Along with being recognized in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, Hayes was a National Achievement finalist and won a Princeton Book Award. She participated in many high school activities, including the Spanish Club, National Honor Society and cross-country and soccer teams. She will attend Lincoln University in Missouri.

NATASHA and **SHEREE LEWIS** are twin sisters with a dual commitment to academic excellence. The pair ranked within the top 5 percent of their senior class of 475 students at R.L. Paschal High School in Fort Worth, Texas. They are both listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* and are National Macy's and Tandy scholars. In high school, the sisters were members of the student council, National Honor Society, and they participated in track and basketball. The twins will attend Duke University and major in biology.



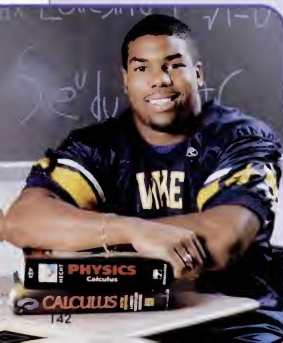
JEFFREY A. BLACK, a top graduate at West Charlotte Senior High School in Charlotte, N.C., was a National Macy's Scholar and an All-American Scholar. He won the Eagle Scout Award and received a *Who's Who Among American High School Students* multiple-year award. Black was a member of the National Honor Society, his church youth group and the varsity track team. He received more than \$100,000 in scholarship offers. Black will attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

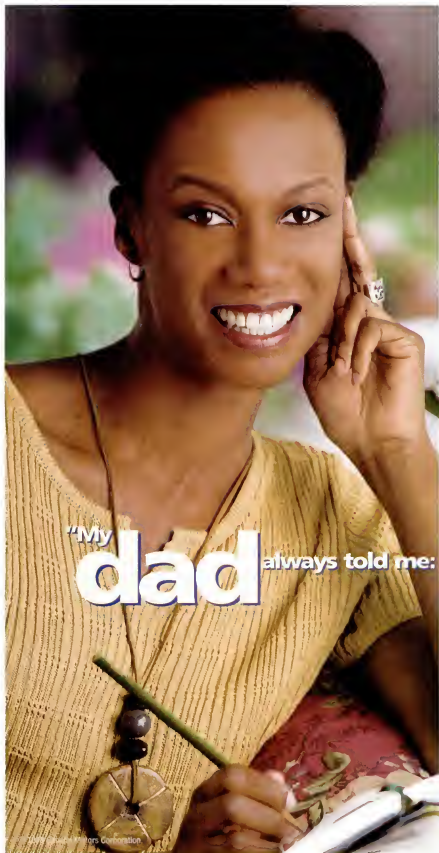


With a 4.4 GPA, scholar-athlete **JUSTIN FAUST** ranked in the top 5 percent of his class at Lamar High School in Arlington, Texas. His variety of honors includes a National English Merit award, recognition as a Macy Scholar and membership in several honor societies. Faust was also a high school football star, being named to national and state lists of top players. This fall, he will attend Stanford University for its combination of academics and athletics.



KEYTESHIA GUY was valedictorian of A. Philip Randolph Campus High School at City College in New York City. The honor roll student won a New York State Regents Scholarship and a Founders Scholarship at Howard University, which she will attend this fall. Along with her academic achievements, including belonging to the National Honor Society, Guy was creative/text editor of her high school yearbook and a peer tutor.





"I spent a lot of time with my dad.

Following him around the yard while he

planted tomatoes or pruned roses. And I

loved going for rides in his General

Motors car. Sometimes we'd go fishing.

We always took the long way around.

And we'd talk. He taught me that

sometimes the road to my happiness

wouldn't have a lot of signs marking the

way. But to trust myself and I'd always

know which road to take. I've counted

on his words for courage over the years.

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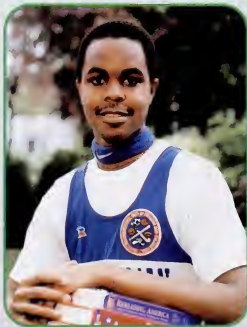


KATORI LYNN HALL was the first African-American valedictorian in the history of Craigmont High School in Memphis, Tenn. This exceptional youth was a Ron Brown Scholar, Target All-Around Scholar and Coca-Cola Scholar Finalist. Her school activities included the math honor society and communications club. She also was a member of the cheerleading squad and the soccer and track teams. After school, she performed community service with Habitat for Humanity, the United Way and the Memphis food bank. Hall was also a teen writer for the Memphis Commercial Appeal newspaper. She will attend Columbia University.



KRISTIN WALKER, valedictorian of East High School in Memphis, Tenn., was a National Macy's Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society. She participated in United Way of the Mid-South, Health Occupations Students of America and Teen-age Improvement Club. She will attend Xavier University in Louisiana.

NORMAN NILES, who ranked in the top percentile of students at Julia R. Masterman High School in Philadelphia, will attend Morehouse College on a full scholarship. The scholar took college classes at the University of Pennsylvania while in high school and excelled as an athlete, finishing in fourth place for two years in cross-country track championships. While juggling his academic and extracurricular commitments, he was also a Sunday School teacher and church deacon.



CARLOS STRINGER SMITH, a top graduate of Spring Valley High School in Columbia, S.C., was student body president, a National Macy's Scholar and was twice named to *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. He participated in a variety of school activities, including student council, track and field and the National Honor Society. The scholar-athlete, who received scholarship offers to a number of colleges, was a National Merit semifinalist. Smith will attend Hampton University.



MARI' LATOYA SIMMONS, valedictorian at Lincoln Humanities and Communications Magnet High School in Dallas, will study business and pre-law when she enters college this fall. Along with receiving National English and Science Merit awards, Simmons was a member of the National Honor Society and National Honor Roll. She was also listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, and she performed leadership duties as vice president of the student council and president of the dance ensemble. In addition, she supplied community service by teaching tap classes and participating in a campaign to clean South Dallas. She will attend Florida A&M University.



COMMUNITY



Saturday mornings, Mary Hopkins-Navies lets local students transform her three McDonald's parking lots into car washes. Last year alone, the Clinton, Maryland teens raised over \$8,000 for groups like the Boys and Girls Club. Mary also donates 10 yearly PSAT scholarships, offers weekly senior citizen bingo games, tutors math, and has helped raise over \$22,000 in the last two years for neighborhood causes.



As founder of the Jackson, Mississippi chapter of "100 Black Men," LeRoy Walker, Jr. serves as a role model by mentoring to disadvantaged black teens. As owner of 10 McDonald's and Chairman Elect of the Jackson Chamber of Commerce, LeRoy is dedicated to the economic development of his community and to improving local education and race relations. This former high school teacher and football coach is a true community activist, leader and visionary.



Louis C. Henry, Jr. is about "getting kids productive and giving them a chance." Louis meets with local police, clergy and schools to identify needy "at risk" teens in St. Paul, Minnesota, and helps teach them work and life skills at his four inner-city McDonald's. He's also Vice-Chairman of the Mayor's Workforce Development Council, supporting student programs which provide tutoring and jobs. Last summer alone, Louis' dedication and commitment helped find 1,000 jobs for the youth in his community.

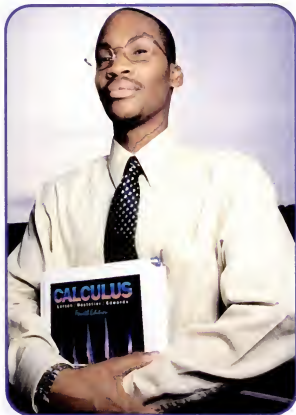
WE'RE GLAD TO BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



ANNEKÉ JANETTE ALLEN was valedictorian of her class at D.M. Therrell High School in Atlanta. She was a student ambassador to Holland, member of the National Forensic League and was listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. Her other high school activities included student government, debate team, Key Club and academic decathlon team. She plans to attend Princeton University and one day became a U.S. Supreme Court justice.

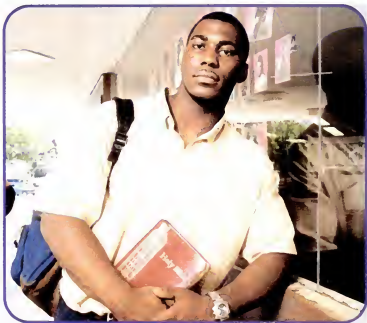


NIKITA SIMONE WILLIAMS, a member of the All-State Orchestra and National Honor Society, attended the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts in Natchitoches, La., where she maintained an A-average throughout her four years of high school. The college-bound scholar is a National Achievement finalist and recipient of the U.S. Senate Japan International Exchange Scholarship. She received tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships to colleges around the country. Williams also practiced the spirit of volunteerism while succeeding in academics, donating her time to the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, the National Cancer Coalition and other charities. She will attend the University of Pittsburgh.



CLEON LONG, who ranks in the top percentile of his class at Menchville High School in Newport News, Va., has been an active volunteer as well as a scholar. He tutored other students in math, brought cheer to the elderly in nursing homes and was a youth usher for his church. Long was a member of the ballroom dance club, art club and drama production group. He received several awards and commendations, including a beacon award for student leadership, appointment to the mayor's youth commission and an invitation to attend a national youth summit on under-age drinking. He will attend Morehouse College.

JONATHAN LANGSTON CHISM, who maintained a perfect 4.0 average while a student at Pine Bluff High School in Pine Bluff, Ark., is a minister and was an all-state football star. He was president of his senior class and president of the Future Business Leaders of America. In addition, he was a member of the National Honor Society and National Beta Club. Chism received a scholarship for his oratory skills, along with the Prudential Spirit of Community Award and the KTHV Who Care Award. He will attend Rice University.



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Beauty And Style

For The New
Black Woman

The ABC's of Shorts



PUTTING on a pair of shorts may cause less anxiety than swimsuits, but most women agree that when it comes to looking cool during the hot summer months, shorts can't be beat. In fact, new fabrics, lengths and designs make shorts a fashion option that can be worn three seasons out of the year. Shorts are suitable for women of all ages, available in styles ranging from conservative knee-length clamdiggers to short-shorts that leave little to the imagination. How much leg you dare to bare is

Comfortable and fashionable, shorts come in a wide variety of fabrics, lengths and designs. No matter a woman's size or shape, there are shorts available that will fit and flatter.

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Beauty And Style

For The New Black Woman

entirely up to you, but there are definitely options available for women of all shapes and sizes.

Before you find a style you feel comfortable in, make sure your legs are ready to bare. Exfoliate dead skin cells using a loofah sponge in the shower. For stubborn areas, a salt scrub or body polishing cream may help. When using these products, be careful not to rub too vigorously to avoid irritating the skin.

Avoid razor bumps by soaking your legs for at least 10 minutes in a warm-to-hot bath prior to shaving. Use a fresh, clean blade and moisturizing shaving cream for best results. Shave only in one direction, rinsing the blade after every stroke. If bumps persist, look for topical creams or solutions in your drug store that can help diminish their appearance, or consult with a dermatologist.

Help speed up the fading of scars and discolorations by using lotions containing alpha-hydroxyl acids. Do not use AHA products immediately after shaving or exfoliating, as stinging can result.

Once you're ready to show a little leg, check out this year's hottest shorts styles:

CAPRIS: A figure-hugging style that ends just above or below the knee.

SHORT-SHORTS: Not for the faint of heart, short-shorts are typically form-fitting, with an inseam no longer than 3 inches.

WALKING SHORTS: Comfortable and practical, walking shorts' mid-thigh to knee-length hide a multitude of sins in the hip and upper-thigh area. Available with or without pleats.

CARGO SHORTS: A sexier take on cargo pants, these shorts are one of the biggest fashion trends of the year. A casual, utilitarian look, this style can add pounds if the pockets are too large and bulky.

DRAWSTRING: Casually chic, drawstring shorts can be worn high on the waist or low on the hips.

Shorts or pants? The debate continues while capris reign supreme as this year's hottest fashion statement. The most versatile style, capris can be dressed up or down, depending on the occasion.





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Stylish and practical, shorts are a fashion staple. You can keep your cool this season with mid-thigh, flat-front denim shorts (above), dark surfer-style short-shorts (left) and (below) cargo shorts with a drawstring waist.



Now that you know what styles are in, how do you know which ones will work for you? The following guidelines might help:

- If your thighs are heavy, avoid prints, horizontal stripes, bright colors and cargo pockets. They will only draw more attention.
- If you have a large stomach, avoid flat-front shorts. Stick to pleated styles that will camouflage your stomach.
- If you have short legs, don't wear cuffed shorts. They will only make you look shorter.
- If you have cellulite, don't wear tight shorts, particularly styles made from spandex or other stretchy materials. Choose a roomier style and more forgiving fabrics that de-emphasize your problem areas.

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Scrumptious Kabobs

By Charlotte Lyons

One of summer's most popular treats during the cookout season is also one of the easiest to prepare—kabobs. Whether you are entertaining guests or preparing a regular meal for your family, the variety that kabobs offer is unlimited. The items that you place on the skewers can include meat or seafood (seasoned or marinated), tomatoes, onions, green peppers or other vegetables. You can create as many different types of kabobs as your imagination allows, and most kabobs, which can be cooked in a broiler or on the grill, require very little time to prepare.

Perhaps the kabobs recipes on the following pages will give you some ideas about the treats you can prepare for your family and friends.



Photography by James Mitchell



Scrumptious and nutritious kabobs, which are easy to prepare, can come in a variety of tasty forms, including Easy Chicken Kabobs.



One of the most popular and tasty items to be placed on skewers is shrimp, creating a delicacy like *Cajun Shrimp Kabobs*.

CAJUN SHRIMP KABOBS

- 20 large shrimp, cleaned and deveined
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1½ to 2 teaspoons cajun seasoning
- ½ dried thyme, crushed

Pat shrimp dry with paper towel. Place crushed garlic in shallow dish; stir in oil, cajun seasoning and thyme. Add shrimp and toss to coat shrimp. Cover and refrigerate for 15 minutes. Place 5 shrimp on each skewer. Set oven control to broil or 550 degrees. Place kabobs on broiler pan. Broil or grill shrimp until done, about 4 to 5 minutes, turning once.

Yields 4 servings

EASY CHICKEN KABOBS

- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch pieces
- ½ cup Italian salad dressing
- 1 large clove garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil or 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 medium green pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 medium red onion, cut into 1-inch pieces

Combine salad dressing, garlic, and basil until well-blended in large bowl. Add chicken and toss gently to coat. Cover and refrigerate for 15 minutes. Remove chicken from marinade. Alternate chicken and vegetables on 4 to 6 metal skewers or bamboo skewers. Set oven control to broil or 550 degrees.

Place skewers on broiler pan and brush with marinade. Broil until chicken is done, about 10 minutes, turning occasionally. Kabobs can also be cooked on the grill.

Yields 4 servings

BOURBON BEEF KABOBS

- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ¼ cup Kentucky bourbon
- ¼ cup lite soy sauce
- 2 large cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 pound beef, cut into 1-inch cubes

Place ginger, bourbon, soy sauce, garlic, oil, sugar in glass dish. Add beef and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour or longer. Thread beef

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For those who might not prefer the taste of seafood, they can try Bourbon Beef Kabobs or Easy Vegetable Kabobs.

cubes on 4 skewers, leaving a little space between each. Set oven control to broil or 550 degrees. Place kabobs on broiler pan. Broil beef about 3 inches from heat until desired doneness, turning occasionally and brushing with marinade, about 5 to 10 minutes. Kabobs can also be cooked on the grill.

Yields 4 servings

EASY VEGETABLE KABOBS

- 1 medium red onion, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 small zucchini, thick and diagonally sliced
- 1 large red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 small yellow squash, thick and diagonally sliced
- 8 whole, fresh mushrooms
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup Italian salad dressing
- 1 large clove garlic, crushed
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley

Place vegetable pieces in large glass

bowl. Pour salad dressing over vegetables; add garlic and parsley. Gently toss to coat vegetables. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour or longer. Alternate vegetable pieces on 6 skewers. Place kabobs on broiler pan. Set oven control to broil or 550 degrees. Broil kabobs until vegetables are just tender, about 5 to 8 minutes, brushing and turning occasionally.

Yields 6 servings

CRANBERRY HAM KABOBS

- 2 pounds fully cooked boneless ham, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 16-ounce can jellied cranberry sauce
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup orange juice
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup bottled steak sauce
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons prepared mustard
- Canned pineapple chunks
- Wedges of unpeeled oranges

Combine and blend cranberry sauce, orange juice, steak sauce, brown sugar, oil and mustard in glass dish. Add cubed ham. Cover and refrigerate several hours or overnight, stirring occasionally. Thread ham, pineapple chunks and orange wedges alternately on skewers. Set oven control to broil or 550 degrees. Place kabobs on broiler pan. Broil until kabobs are heated through and light brown, about 10 minutes, turning and brushing with marinade. Kabobs also can be cooked on the grill.

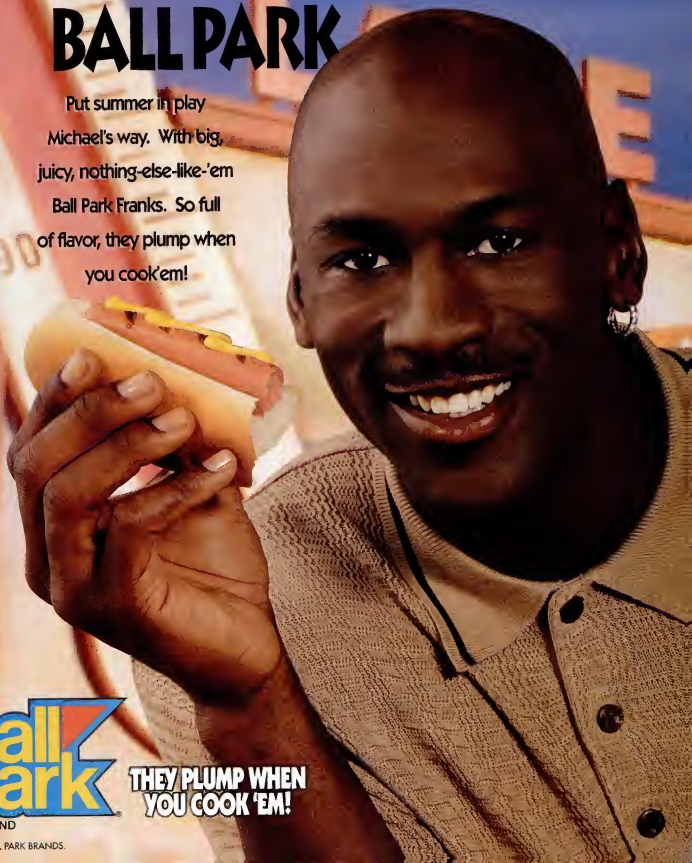
Yields 8 servings

SCALLOP KABOBS

- 1 pound scallops
- 12 fresh mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons fresh orange juice
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon ground ginger
- 6 bacon slices
- 1 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ounce can pineapple chunks,

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The variety that's associated with the preparation of kabobs is evident in a treat like Dessert Fruit Kabobs, which can include several tasty ingredients, including pineapple, strawberries, cantaloupe, honeydew melon, kiwifruit and blackberries. Dessert Fruit Kabobs can be the perfect finishing touch for the calorie- and weight-conscious individual.

drained

- 12 green pepper chunks
- 12 cherry tomatoes
- Melted butter or margarine

Place scallops and mushrooms in shallow glass dish. Combine oil, soy sauce, orange juice, sugar and ginger; pour over scallops and mushrooms. Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes, turning scallops and mushrooms once. Partially fry bacon; drain and cut slices in half. On 4 skewers, alternate scallops, mushrooms, bacon, pineapple chunks, green pepper chunks and cherry tomatoes. Set oven control to broil or 350 degrees. Place kabobs on broiler pan. Broil kabobs 3 inches from heat for 5 to 8 minutes, turning once and basting with butter.

Yields 4 servings

BARBECUED CATFISH KABOBS

- 12 small, whole onions
- 12 red or green bell peppers
- 3 zucchini, cut into ½-inch pieces
- 4 to 5 catfish fillets, cut into 1½-inch pieces
- Bottled barbecue sauce

Parboil onions for 7 minutes or until partially cooked; drain. Alternate onions, green peppers, zucchini and catfish on 6 skewers. Broil for 15 minutes or until fish flakes easily with fork, brushing frequently with barbecue sauce and occasionally turning. If preparing outdoors, place kabobs on greased grill over low coals, which should be ash gray. Grill uncovered until fish flakes easily with fork, brushing frequently with barbecue sauce and turning occasionally.

Yields 6 servings

DESSERT FRUIT KABOBS

- ½ fresh pineapple, peeled and cubed
- 6 large strawberries
- ½ medium cantaloupe, peeled and cubed
- ½ medium honeydew melon, peeled and cubed
- 2 kiwifruit, peeled and thickly sliced
- 12 large blackberries (optional)

Alternate pineapple, strawberries, cantaloupe, honeydew melon, kiwifruit and blackberries on about 6 bamboo skewers. Serve with vanilla or lemon yogurt.

Yields 6 servings

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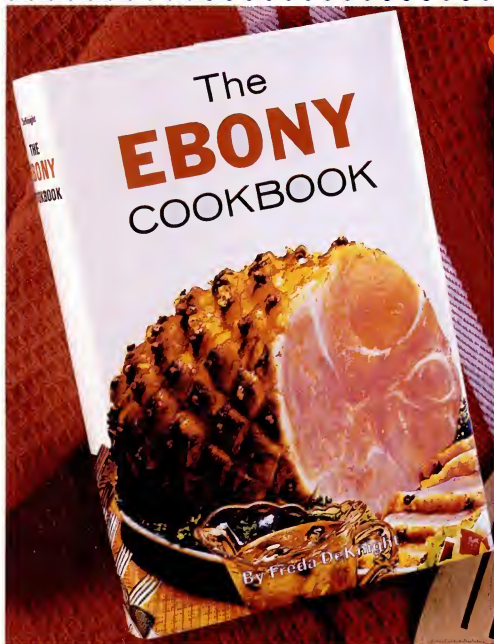
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The New Black Money Men

Emerging multimillionaires are writing new script for success



Chester C. Davenport, managing director of Georgetown Partners, a private investment firm in Bethesda, Md., gained a 7 percent stake in one of the biggest corporate acquisitions of the year—the \$3.3 billion takeover by GTE Corporation of Ameritech Corporation's wireless telephone business.

CHESTER C. Davenport and Fredrick B. Clark are among the multimillionaires who are writing a new script for Black financial success stories. Armed with mounds of research, unflagging work ethics and healthy egos, they've struck it rich in boardrooms and courtrooms by tromping into territory others were too intimidated to explore. These new millennium moneymakers represent a breed of entrepreneurs who are leveraging big bucks not through mere affirmative action, but through aggressive action that has corporate America sitting up and taking notice.

On the surface, the two could not be more different.

Davenport's arena is the world of high-flying corporate finance. At 58, he is managing director of Georgetown Partners, a private investment firm in Bethesda, Md., that acquired a 7 percent interest in one of the biggest corporate deals of the year—the \$3.3 billion acquisition by GTE Corporation of the Ameritech Corporation's wireless telephone business.

Like most of today's money men, Davenport refuses to discuss the deal or its worth. Industry-watchers, however, estimate that Georgetown's stake in the megamerger is worth more than a



Fredrick B. Clark, an attorney in Greenwood, Miss., helped engineer the settlement of the state of Mississippi's groundbreaking suit against the tobacco industry. Below, Clark poses in front of his new offices with members of his staff, including his brother Billy Clark (front row, 1 to r.), who also serves as his accountant; Billy's wife, Joyce; and Clark's wife, Margaret, who manages the office staff. Attorneys Erika D. Sutter (in gold and black) and James K. Littleton III (rear, in dark suit) are two new associates Clark has just brought on staff.

whopping \$230 million.

It is in the courtroom that Clark, 45, has gained prominence—and a sizable bank account. An attorney in private practice in Greenwood, Miss., Clark was one of the orchestrators of the state of Mississippi's groundbreaking lawsuit against the tobacco industry, the settlement of which netted the state \$6.7 billion, with \$1.4 billion awarded to the 12 law firms, including Clark's, that handled the case. Clark's take is estimated to be more than \$100 million.

While their professional paths seem wildly divergent, beneath the surface, Davenport and Clark present eerily similar profiles. Both are sons of the rural South: Clark, the youngest of 11 children, was reared on a farm in Ackerman, Miss.; Davenport is a product of Athens, Ga. Both had their dreams nurtured in segregated elementary and high schools, and their ambitions stoked in historically Black colleges: Jackson State University for Clark, Morehouse College for Davenport.

And both cut a brilliant swath through the South's most prestigious—and, historically, most racially inhospitable—law schools. Davenport was the first Black student to enroll in the University of Georgia Law School in 1963, where on the first day of class, he discovered that not one of his fellow students would sit within 15 chairs of him. Still, he went on to graduate in the top 5 percent of his class.

Though integration was more entrenched when Clark entered the University of Mississippi Law School in 1975, the atmosphere was no less daunting for students of color. Of the 15 African-Americans who entered law school with him, only five graduated.

Preparation and persistence are also distinguishing characteristics that Davenport and Clark share. After graduating from law school in 1966, Davenport went to work in the

appellate section of the Justice Department's tax division, then moved on to the Senate Banking Committee staff as an assistant to Sen. Alan Cranston. Fellow Georgian Jimmy Carter tapped Davenport to work on his presidential campaign in 1976. Upon his election, Carter appointed Davenport assistant secretary of transportation.

The public sector connections Davenport forged in Washington would help lay the groundwork for the private sector riches he would reap later on. Still, there was a tremendous amount of work involved. "Back then, for an African-American, you always had to be the best," he once told the *New York Times*. "It was always, if you're not better than everybody, you're not going to get anything."





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The Clarks, who have been married 19 years and have four children, say that money has not changed them. They've lived in the same house for 17 years and insist that their two younger daughters get jobs and show some responsibility. "We tell them, 'We're rich, you're not,'" says Margaret.

MONEY MEN *Continued*

Davenport left government in the late 1970s and teamed with real estate mogul Mortimer Zuckerman, who was greatly involved in the redevelopment of much of downtown Washington and environs. That association helped make Davenport a millionaire and paved the way for the formation of Georgetown Partners, which was formed in the late '80s.

The go-go '80s, as the Reagan era of high-yield debt financing became known, was creating new millionaires by the truckload and made the buying and selling of public and privately-held companies the sport of the new money kings.

Through Georgetown Partners, Davenport acquired United Technologies, Inc., a vehicle emissions testing business, for \$30 million and re-established it as Envirotech Systems, Corp. "The acquisition of Envirotech was a very important deal," says the Rev. Jesse Jackson, whose Wall Street Project, an initiative to increase minority participation in the world of high finance, was an influential link in Georgetown's involvement in the GTE/Ameritech deal. "What Chester did with Envirotech was work out the fine scientific points of automobile testing and devise the financial structure that allowed him to acquire the company."

Establishing himself as chairman of Envirotech, Davenport oversaw the doubling of the company's revenues (it was generating income of \$165 million in 1998) during the five years that it was under his control. But automobile emissions testing is a

bumping business, subject to the vagaries of state and federal regulation. In October 1988, Georgetown Partners sold the company for \$580 million.

That windfall helped ease Georgetown's entree into the GTE/Ameritech deal. While Wall Street backbiters like to sneer that Davenport and his partners' involvement in the deal was merely a form of corporate affirmative action, Jackson counters that Davenport brought far more to the table than melanin. "The fact is Chester walked in the room with more liquid wealth than anyone else," Jackson says. "And his team of 15 had done so much preparation for this deal that I think everyone in the room was traumatized."


With one monumental deal, Davenport expanded Jackson and the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition's initial call for corporate America to open its doors. "We were calling for more jobs and vending relationships and spin-offs," Jackson says. "This deal was bigger than that; it was huge."

Asked by a New York Times reporter if affirmative action was the only reason he was allowed to participate in the mammoth communications deal, Davenport responded: "I think if I were White, I would own one of these damn telephone companies, O.K.? All the time I've spent here, whatever money I have now, if I were White doing everything I've done, I would have 100 times more money than I have now, O.K.?"

The same might be said of Fredrick Clark, who brought the same dogged determination to his path to wealth and success. Clark has another identifying characteristic—a habit of latching on to unlikely causes. Fortunately, things always seem to work out. He calls it fate. "I think God puts us in places where we're supposed to be and then has us do the things we're supposed to do," he says.

Others say Clark's success is due to his tremendous belief in himself and his deep commitment to others. "He really cares about his clients and tries to do what's best for them," says Margaret Clark, his wife of 19 years. "And because he believes in himself, he's willing to fight all the way for what's in his client's best interest."

Still, it seemed improbable that a solo practicing attorney would help lay the legal foundation that would end the tobacco industry's long string of victories in cases holding them accountable



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MONEY MEN *Continued*

for the nation's addiction to nicotine. At least, it seems improbable if you don't know the kind of persistent man Fred Clark is, nor the kind of indomitable, hardworking stock he's from.

Since the age of 10 or 11 he's wanted to be an attorney. It was a dream fueled by family controversy. His family homestead rested on 500 acres in Ackerman, Miss., that was bought in 1878 by his grandfather. But when his grandfather died, a family squabble over the land—sparked, he says, by the illegitimate child of one of his grandfather's siblings—nearly forced the land to be sold and partitioned off. The family prevailed (the Clarks still own 370 acres of the original 500-acre parcel), but the acrimonious legal wrangling made young Fred decide then and there that he wanted to become a lawyer to prevent his family from ever again being taken advantage of by the law.

Encouraged in his educational pursuits by his parents (nine of the 11 Clark children have bachelor's degrees and four have advanced degrees), Clark breezed through Jackson State University in three years, graduating with honors in 1974 with a degree in accounting. He entered a management training program at General Motors in Flint, Mich., and toyed with the idea of a career in the automobile industry—GM was promising a fast track to upper management—but law school called.

Throughout law school he thought he'd merge his accounting and legal skills and try his hand in corporate law. But a stint working for the school's legal services department convinced him that litigation was his natural calling. After leaving Ole Miss, he did a brief stint with the Mississippi Legal Services office in Lexington, Miss., and another brief stint as a partner in the Greenwood, Miss., firm of Sanders, Sanders & Clark before launching himself in a solo practice, also in Greenwood.

It was tough-going at first. But before long he got his first big case, a wrongful death suit against the Mississippi Power & Light Co. that was settled for \$640,000, at the time the largest settlement in the history of Holmes County.

In 1986, he embarked on what many thought was a quixotic battle with the tobacco industry. Horton v. American Tobacco Company was the first cigarette case filed in Mississippi. And though the tobacco industry had prevailed in countless other suits, Clark saw no reason why he couldn't win.

Despite protracted legal maneuvering by the tobacco company (the pre-trial preparations took four years), Clark won the second-ever verdict for a plaintiff in a tobacco suit, but the jury awarded no money.

In 1988, Clark took on the American Tobacco again. This time a judge ruled for the first time that cigarettes are an inherently dangerous product, but in the light of a doctor's testimony that the plaintiff did not die of lung cancer, but of other ailments, the jury ruled in favor of the defense.

All of his work on the ground floor of the tobacco litigation, however, brought Clark to the attention of Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore. And when a group of lawyers proposed to Moore that the state would be a more formidable plaintiff against the tobacco industry than an individual, Moore tapped Clark to be on the team that would take the case to court.

The strategy caught the tobacco industry's legal team completely off guard. "All this time they had prepared to argue that the smokers were at fault for their own addiction," Clark says. "But the state can't be at fault. The state's position was here is what your lying and your forcing this product on the public has cost the state. And they were unprepared to

defend against that."

The team was also aided by defectors who testified for the state. With former tobacco-industry workers coming forth and revealing the mounds of research indicating that some companies not only knew how addictive and harmful cigarettes were, but conspired to hide that information from the public, the industry decided to settle with the state. And Clark, who 15 years before was struggling to meet his mortgage and keep a roof over the heads of his wife and four children, became a multimillionaire.

The 12 companies involved in the suit split a fee of \$1.4 billion, which was determined by an arbitration panel. The tobacco companies have paid one multimillion-dollar installment to the firms and will pay off the rest—with 3 percent interest a year—until all the fees are settled.

Despite the sudden wealth and the fact that many observers say that with a \$100 million windfall they'd flee Mississippi, Clark has not changed his lifestyle appreciably. He and his wife remain in same house they've shared with two of their youngest children for the past 17 years. And both he and his wife insist that their 15-year-old daughter, Jeri, get a summer job and pay rent. "We tell our children, 'We're rich, you aren't,'" says Margaret. "We want them to stay grounded."

Clark has used his wealth to advance some pet causes, notably education. He's donated money to virtually every Black college and university in Mississippi. And he wants to start a foundation that will help build up the pitifully small endowments of every Black college in the country. "I'm a firm believer in education," he says. "If we can educate Black children, we can go a long way toward solving all of the problems Black folks have."

He also started a recording company, Deltadisc Records. Its featured artist, Beverly Ellis, a Black woman who sings country music, hopes to be the breakthrough Black woman on the Nashville music scene. Clark also hopes to use Deltadisc to help further his foundation for Black colleges. "I have this vision of a portion of the proceeds from record sales to go for the support Black colleges," he says. "Can you see it? We'd have White people buying country and western music supporting Black colleges."

It's a grand dream. But then, grand dreams are what made Clark and Chester Davenport rich men. Jesse Jackson calls them "products of the success of the civil rights struggle—dream-makers and odds-busters."

The Clark family support system is composed of a cadre of relatives, including grandsons Kyrosalum Wiley, 18 months (on Fred Clark's lap), and Fredrick Jamal Clark, age 4 (with Margaret). Standing (l. to r.) daughter Jeri, 15, sister-in-law Joyce and Billy Clark, and their daughter, Rosalind.



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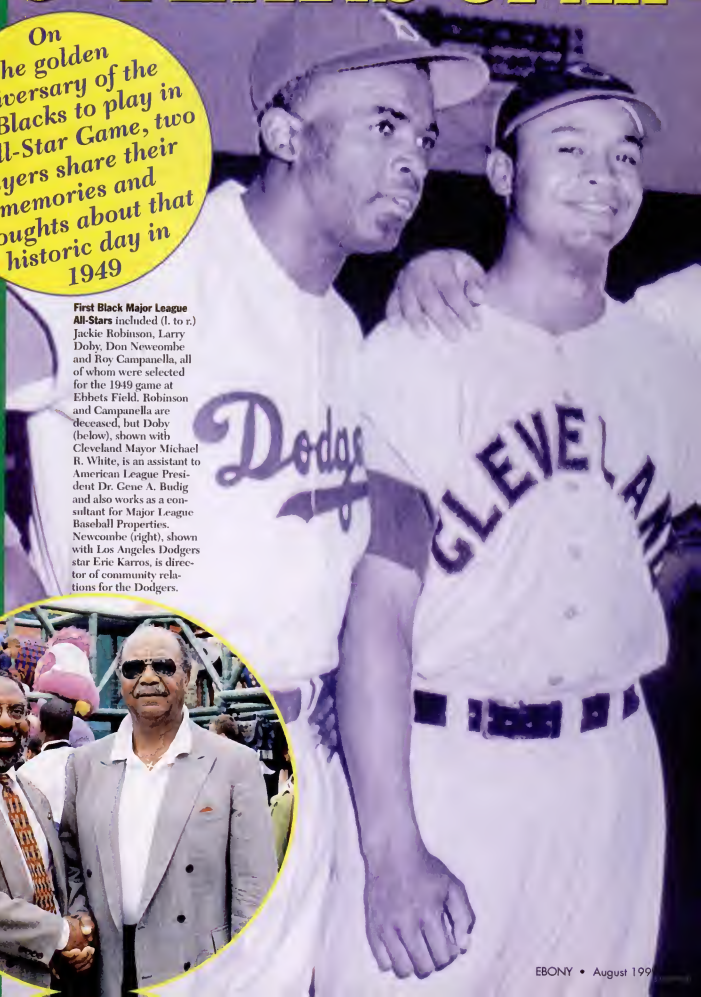


National
Medical
Association

50 YEARS OF ALL-

On the golden anniversary of the first Blacks to play in the All-Star Game, two players share their memories and thoughts about that historic day in 1949

First Black Major League All-Stars included (l. to r.) Jackie Robinson, Larry Doby, Don Newcombe and Roy Campanella, all of whom were selected for the 1949 game at Ebbets Field. Robinson and Campanella are deceased, but Doby (below), shown with Cleveland Mayor Michael R. White, is an assistant to American League President Dr. Gene A. Budig and also works as a consultant for Major League Baseball Properties. Newcombe (right), shown with Los Angeles Dodgers star Eric Karros, is director of community relations for the Dodgers.



Star Excellence



IT was a day that Larry Doby and Don Newcombe will never forget, thanks to some vivid images from a historic event that have been indelibly etched into their memory banks. They still remember the faces in the sell-out crowd, the mounting anticipation, the unbridled excitement and the profound sense of pride that were so obvious when they—along with Jackie Robinson and Roy Campanella—took another trailblazing step in Major League Baseball.

The Date: July 12, 1949

The Place: Ebbets Field, Brooklyn, N.Y.

The Event: The 16th annual All-Star Game

The Historic Significance: The first time African-Americans (Robinson, Campanella, Newcombe, all of the Brooklyn Dodgers, and Doby of the Cleveland Indians) participated in the Mid-Summer Classic.

"When I walked out on that field that day, I remember being proud, scared and nervous, but mostly proud to have that uniform on and be able to represent our people and be with Jackie, Roy and Larry," says Newcombe, at the time a rookie who had produced an incredible 8-1 won-loss record in

Continued on Page 174



They Led The Way ...



Roy Campanella

Larry Doby

Don Newcombe

Jackie Robinson

**50th Anniversary of
African American Players in the All-Star Game
1949-1999**

50

years ago Jackie Robinson, Larry Doby, Roy Campanella, and Don Newcombe became the first African Americans to play in a Major League Baseball All-Star game, leading the way for many other African American players to follow. In celebration of this 50th Anniversary, Major League Baseball proudly salutes the African American All-Stars from 1949-1998.

1949-1974

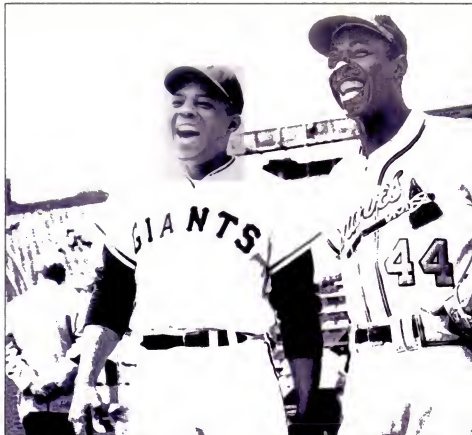
Jackie Robinson	Joe Morgan
Larry Doby	Jim Hart
Roy Campanella	Al Downing
Don Newcombe	Ferguson Jenkins
Satchel Paige	Jimmy Wynn
Willie Mays	Lou Brock
Al Smith	John (Blue Moon) Odom
Ernie Banks	Paul Blair
Hank Aaron	Reggie Smith
Harry Simpson	Carlos Mays
Jim Gilliam	Roy White
Frank Robinson	Reggie Jackson
Elston Howard	Lee May
George Crowe	Cleon Jones
John Roseboro	Grant Jackson
Vida Pinson	Alex Johnson
Charlie Neal	Amos Otis
Bill White	Tommy Harper
Sam Jones	Wayne Simpson
George Altman	Clarence Gaston
Maury Wills	Don Buford
Leon Wagner	Vida Blue
Earl Battey	Don Wilson
Billy Williams	Willie Davis
Tommy Davis	Dock Ellis
Bob Gibson	Nate Colbert
Jim (Mudcat) Grant	Bobby Bonds
Willie McCovey	Al Oliver
John Wyatt	Pat Kelly
Willie Stargell	John Mayberry
Curt Flood	Dave May
Willie Horton	Dave Nelson
Dick Allen	Bob Watson
Bob Veale	George Hendrick
George Scott	Ralph Garr
Tommy Agee	Dave Cash
	Lynn McClothen

1975-1998

Claudell Washington	Ozzie Smith	Dave Stewart
Bill Madlock	Andre Thornton	Kevin Mitchell
Ron LeFlore	Willie Wilson	Ellis Burks
Hal McRae	Leon Durham	Cecil Fielder
Chris Chambliss	Lonnie Smith	Ken Griffey Jr.
Willie Randolph	Lou Whitaker	Barry Bonds
Mickey Rivers	Gary Ward	Dave Henderson
George Foster	Lee Smith	Joe Carter
Ken Griffey	Willie McGee	Ron Gant
Bake McBride	Alfredo Griffith	Terry Pendleton
Ken Singleton	Jerry Mumphrey	Bip Roberts
Jim Rice	Dwight Gooden	Mike Sharperson
Larry Hise	Darryl Strawberry	Fred McGriff
Ruppert Jones	Al Holland	Gary Sheffield
Ellis Valentine	Tony Gwynn	Albert Belle
Garry Templeton	Chili Davis	Gregg Vaughn
Dave Winfield	Donnie Moore	David Justice
Eddie Murray	Harold Baines	Marquis Crissom
Chet Lemon	Phil Bradley	Frank Thomas
Frank White	Kirby Puckett	Kenny Lofton
Davey Lopes	Jesse Barfield	Ken Hill
Don Baylor	Lloyd Moseby	Mo Vaughn
Cecil Cooper	Kevin Bass	Reggie Sanders
Gary Matthews	Huile Brooks	Heathcliff Slocumb
Dave Parker	Chris Brown	Eric Young
Al Bumbry	Eric Davis	Lance Johnson
Ben Oglivie	Jeffrey Leonard	Joey Cora
Ken Landreaux	Johnny Ray	Charles Johnson
Rickey Henderson	Harold Reynolds	Tony Womack
J.R. Richard	Gerald Perry	Royce Clayton
Jim Bibby	Shawon Dunston	Ray Lankford
Mike Norris	Barry Larkin	Tom Gordon
Dusty Baker	Bobby Bonilla	Ray Durham
Andre Dawson	Vince Coleman	Damion Easley
Tim Lincecum	Devon White	Derek Jeter
Mike Easler	Bo Jackson	

... For African American All-Stars





50 YEARS *Continued*

less than two months in the big leagues. "We were in the midst of making history, but I remember being scared to death when I went to the mound to relieve Warren Spahn."

Like Newcombe, Doby had some butterflies of his own, but they didn't diminish the historical significance of the day. "It was a great feeling for me to look across the diamond and see other Black faces because, during my first three or four years, I was the only African-American in the American League," says Doby, an outfielder/first baseman who signed with Cleveland on

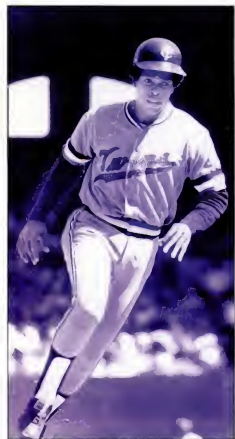
July 6, 1947, just three months after Jackie Robinson's Major League debut. "I think I was more excited after the game, after thinking about the history, but that day—looking across the diamond and seeing those guys—I no longer felt like I was all alone."

While Newcombe, Doby and Campanella were inserted after the game had begun, Robinson became the first African-American to start an All-Star Game, opening at second base. The historic game, attended by 32,577 onlookers, was won by the National League, 11-7.

Although the game was just two years removed from the so called "Great

Experiment" the Dodgers put into motion when they signed Robinson, neither Newcombe nor Doby remembers any racist behavior—on or off the field—that day, but both clearly remember the glow on the faces of Black fans, who were scattered throughout the stadium because, at Ebbets Field, they could sit in any seat they could afford.

Since that game, African-American players have been such an integral part of All-Star competition that it's difficult to imagine their not participating. What would the games have been like had there been no contribution from players like Willie Mays, who played in a record-setting 24 All-Star Games, and also has the distinction of holding records for most at-bats (75), most runs (20) and most hits (23)? What about other players like Hank Aaron, Satchel Paige, Ernie Banks, Frank Robinson, Willie Stargell, Curt Flood, Reggie Jackson, Ozzie Smith, Billy Williams, Bob Gibson, Elston Howard, Willie McCovey, Lou Brock, Maury



Perennial All-Stars Willie Mays and Hank Aaron (top) share the record (along with Stan Musial) for most appearances in All-Star games (24). Since fans resumed voting for the All-Star teams in 1970, Rod Carew (above), who played with the Minnesota Twins and the Anaheim Angels, was voted to the game a record 15 times. St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Bob Gibson (left) proved to be just as overpowering during All-Star games as he was during the regular season and in the World Series.



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CITY	SHOW LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Matteson, IL	Matteson Holiday Inn	Wed., 9/8	8:00pm
Elgin, IL	Prairie Center for the Arts	Thurs., 9/9	8:00pm
Milwaukee, WI	The Pabst Theatre	Fri., 9/10	8:00pm
Fl. Wayne, IN	Scottish Rite Auditorium	Sat., 9/11	8:00pm
Columbus, OH	Aladdin Shriners Complex	Sun., 9/12	6:30pm
Harrisburg, PA	The Forum	Wed., 9/15	8:00pm
Reading, PA	Lincoln Plaza	Thurs., 9/16	8:00pm
Wilmington, DE	Grand Opera House	Fri., 9/17	8:00pm
Asbury Park, NJ	Post Theater	Sat., 9/18	8:00pm
Trenton, NJ	The War Memorial	Sun., 9/19	5:00pm
N. Brunswick, NJ	Doubletree Hotel	Tues., 9/21	8:00pm
Stamford, CT	The Italian Center of Stamford, Inc.	Wed., 9/22	8:00pm
Providence, RI	Venus DeMilo	Thurs., 9/23	8:00pm
New Haven, CT	Lyman Center, SCSU	Sat., 9/25	8:00pm
Boston, MA	John Hancock Hall	Sun., 9/26	4:00pm
Springfield, MA	Marriott Springfield Hotel	Tues., 9/28	8:00pm
Albany, NY	Albany High School	Wed., 9/29	8:00pm
Hempstead, NY	Hofstra University/ John Cranford Adams Playhouse	Fri., 10/1	8:00pm
Newark, NJ	Newark Symphony Hall	Sat., 10/2	8:00pm
New York, NY	New York Hilton Hotel	Sun., 10/3	3:00pm
Englewood, NJ	Marriott at Glenpoint	Tues., 10/5	8:00pm
Jersey City, NJ	Public School # 17	Wed., 10/6	8:00pm
White Plains, NY	Sleepy Hollow High School	Thurs., 10/7	8:00pm
Brooklyn, NY	Walt Whitman Auditorium/ Brooklyn College	Fri., 10/8	8:00pm
Philadelphia, PA	BlockBuster - Sony Music Centre/ At The Waterfront	Sat., 10/9	2:00pm
Baltimore, MD	Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall	Sun., 10/10	6:00pm
Annapolis, MD	Annapolis Senior High School	Tues., 10/12	8:00pm
Princess Anne, MD	Ella Fitzgerald Center	Wed., 10/13	8:00pm
Hampton, VA	Hampton University/Convocation Center	Thurs., 10/14	8:00pm
Norfolk, VA	L. Douglas Wilder Performing Arts Center	Fri., 10/15	8:00pm
Richmond, VA	Richmond Landmark Theater	Sat., 10/16	8:00pm
Washington, DC	John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	Sun., 10/17	3:00pm
Silver Spring, MD	Indian Spring Country Club	Mon., 10/18	8:00pm
Syracuse, NY	Onondaga County Convention Center/ On Center	Wed., 10/20	8:00pm

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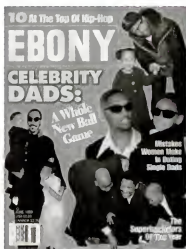
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50 YEARS *Continued*

Wills, Joe Morgan, Dave Winfield, Dick Allen, Riekey Henderson, John (Blue Moon) Odom, Dusty Baker, Tony Gwynn, Ken Griffey Sr. and Jr., Bobby Bonds and Barry Bonds, Kirby Puckett, Barry Larkin and a number of others who have displayed talents that have been instrumental in changing the way the game is played?

Ironically, this year's All-Star Game (on the 50th anniversary of Blacks being included among the game's best players) was held at Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox—the last team to integrate when it finally signed Elijah (Pumpsie) Green in July 1959, a full 12 years after Robinson had broken the color barrier in the modern era.

Both Newcombe and Doby modestly acknowledge the part they played in changing baseball history and rank that day in July 1949 right at the top among the highlights in their careers.

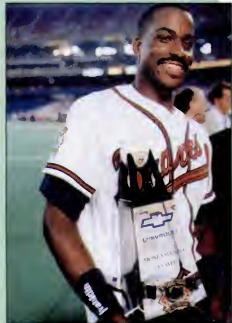
Looking back today, they say they knew that whatever they did—on or off the field—would be scrutinized, criticized and analyzed. And after opening another door that had been closed because of racism, they were determined to do everything they could to do to keep that door open.

When the four players met on the field before the start of the game, Newcombe set the tone, saying, "Fellows, we are here, and now they can't turn us around. We're going to give 'em hell!" □



All-Star regulars

Ken Griffey Jr. (top) and Barry Bonds (left) have been among the top vote-getters since the fans resumed All-Star balloting in 1970. Fred McGriff (right) won the MVP award at the 65th All-Star Game in Pittsburgh after a dramatic, ninth-inning home run to win the game for the National League.



African-American All-Star MVPs

MAURY WILLS
Los Angeles Dodgers (1962)

WILLIE MAYS
San Francisco Giants (1963, 1968)

WILLIE McCOVEY
San Francisco Giants (1969)

FRANK ROBINSON
Baltimore Orioles (1971)

JOE MORGAN
Cincinnati Reds (1972)

BOBBY BONDS
San Francisco Giants (1973)

BILL MATLOCK
Chicago Cubs (1975)

GEORGE FOSTER
Cincinnati Reds (1976)

DAVE PARKER
Pittsburgh Pirates (1979)

KEN GRIFFEY SR.
Cincinnati Reds (1980)

TIM RAINES
Montreal Expos (1987)

BO JACKSON
Kansas City Royals (1989)

KEN GRIFFEY JR.
Seattle Mariners (1992)

KIRBY PUCKETT
Minnesota Twins (1993)

FRED McGRIF
Atlanta Braves (1994)



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